BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

Names.	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half-Yearly Divd.	Cash Rate.
Exchange Banks.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	500	Rs. 25	961½
Bank of Bengal	40,000	500	all	5 pr. ct.	1000
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	5 pr. ct.	890
Exchange Banks.					
Agra	100,000	£10	all	5 pr. ct.	122½
Charter Bank	40,000	£20	£20	7 pr. ct.	£28
Char. Mercantile	30,000	£25	£25	5 pr. ct.	330
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80	$125	all	15 pr. ct.	£53—
National Bank of India	37,330	£25	£12½	6 pr. ct.	175
New Oriental Bank	50,000	£10	all	6 pr. ct.	150
Silver Share	..	..	..	..	100

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

Ahmedabad	600	1,000	1,000	90	
Alliance	1,500	1,000	all	Rs. 20	485ex
Anglo-Indian	9,345	100	100	5	82
Bellary S & W Co. Ld. (Bellary)	871	500	all	9 per.ct.	511
Bombay Unided	900	1,000	1,000	25	660
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co.	600	500	500	20	405
Bombay New Hom Manfg. Co. Ld.	500	1,000	1,000	..	510
Buckingham Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	30	530
Central India	3,750	500	500	35	1,230
China Mills Co. Ld.	800	1,000	1,000	Nil	575
City of Bombay Mills	600	1,000	1,000	Rs. 50	995
Connaught Mills	600	500	25	10 pr.ct.	835
Colaba Land & Mill	1,000	700	700	15	630xd.
Coorla Mills	300	1,000	1,000	Rs. 25	450
Coral Mills Co. Ld.	5,698	100	100	60	0
David Mill	1,400	500	500	Rs. 30	1475
Dhun Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	50	850
Empress	2,100	500	25	10 pr.ct.	580
Framjee Petit	1,200	1,000	1,000	Rs. 35	516
Gordon Mills	2,000	1,000	1,000	Nil.	90
Hindustan	875	1,000	1,000	Rs. 40	725 xd
Hirjee Nuchee Mill	700	500	25	10 pr.ct.	660
Howard and Bullough	1,500	500	500	25	570
Hyderabad	700	1,000	1,000	Rs. 40	770
Imperial Cotton	900	500	500	Rs. 17-8	345
Indian Manfg.	908	1,000	1,000	Rs. 50	985
James Greaves	1,100	500	25	10 pr.ct.	535
Jaffer Alli	2000	500	500	Nil.	340
Jamshed Manfg.					
Jehangier Co.	4,992	250	250	12½	222½
Jewraj Balee	1,000	1,000	1,000	30	735
Jubilee Mills Co., Ld	600	1,000	1,000	Rs. 20	500 xd
Khandesh	750	1,800	1,000	30	650
Khatau Makanjee	400	250	250	25	533 x 1
Khatao Makoonjee	1,000	1,000	1,000	Rs. 25	550
Leopold	3,500	100	100	15 pr.ct.	195
Lord Reay Mfg	445	1,000	1,000	35	700
Lukmidas Spinning & Weaving Co	1,000	1,000	1,000	57½	940
Madras United	1,000	1,000	1,000	100	2,000xd
Mahalaxmee	600	1,000	1,000	Nil.	430
Mahboob Shah Mills (Gulburga)	2,400	500	50	15 pr.ct.	500nom
Manockjee Petit	4,000	1,000	all	Rs. 70	1,350
Mazagon	5,000	300	25	8	112-8
Morarji Goculdas	1,050	1,000	1,000	70	1,725
Maharaja Mysore S & M Co.	4,500	100	100	7 pr.ct.	105
Madura Mills	7,779	100	100	Nil.	par
National	500	1,000	1,000	Nil.	175
New Great Eastern	1,408	1,000	1,000	Rs. 35	690
Oriental	5,725	625	625	Rs. 12½	420
Presidency Mills Co (Ld.)	743	1,000	1,000	Rs. 50	1,300
Queen Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs. 30	670
Ripon Mills	600	1,000	1,000	Rs. 50	1,080xd
Sassoon	1,600	1,000	1,000	25	1,409
Sholapore Mills	500	1,800	1,000	60	1,125
Soonderdas	750	1,000	1,000	Nil.	525
Southern India	1,000	500	500	Nil.	100nom
Southern Mahratta	1,212	250	250	12	270
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,300	250	250	Nil.	245
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	30	460
Swadeshi Mills	3,000	500	500	Rs. 30	460
Union Spinning and Manufacturing Co	900	1,000	1,000	Nil.	765
Victoria Mills	550	1,000	1,000	30	370 xd
Western India	1,200	1,000	1,000	Rs. 40	700 xd
Wadia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	..	700

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

				Last half-yearly guar.	
G. I. P. R. Consolidated Stock	..	£100	all	5 p.c	2,400
B. B. & C. I. R. New £18 Shares	..	£ 18	..	do.	420

PRESS COMPANIES.

				Yearly.	
Akbar	200	1,250	1,250	75	1,100xd
Albert Ginning Co	100	500	all	18 pr.ct.	450
Albert (Kurrachee)	200	1,100	1,100	60	810
Apollo	750	2,400	2,300	Nil.	205
Bellary	167	1,000	1,000	Rs. 40	350
BombayCotton Breul's Cawnpore PressCo Ld	1,000	125	125	10	127½
Colaba	500	200	200	16	90
East India	350	1,000	1,000	130	1,450
English Press and Manfgt.	180	250	..	Rs. 20	175xd
Fort	515	8,500	8,500	50	975
French	300	500	all		545
Harvey and Sabapathy	450	450	500	30	410xd
Hongoli Press Co. Ld	750	400	all	32½	145
Khangaum	240	450	450	54	500
Mahmadpura CottonG. and P. Co, Ld	300	500	500	pr. ct.	500
Mercantile	1,000	125	125	Rs. 7½	80x
Mofussil Co	3,125	400	400	Rs. 40	430
Mummar M	1,000	250	all	Rs. 35	235
New Berar	1,200	500	500	55	555
New Indian	4,000	125	125	Rs. 12½	110
Prince of Wales	600	500	500	20	390
Sabapathy(Bellary)	500	500	500	20	500
Sassoon	300	500	500	..	500
Sind and Punjab Co	100	1,000	1,000	25	1,250
Sind	400	2,000	750	35	445
Sorab Woollen Mills	1,200	250	250	75	210
Volkart	..	1,000	..	Rs. 100	830

MISCELLANEOUS.

				Last Dividend.	
Alcock Ashdown	1,000	200	200	10	250
	750	50	150	7½	195
Back Bay Balls	500	50	50	12	30
Badham Pile	5,000	100	100	12	104
Bapty Brothers	6,625	200	185	18	42
Berar Oil Mills Co., Limited	1,250	100	all	Nil.	100nom
Bombay Fire Insurance	800	2,500	1,000	75	830
Bombay & Burma Trading Corporation	1,000	2,500	1,500	135	3,350
Do. New Issue.	500	375	625	33½	965
Bombay Ice Mfg. Co., Ld.	1,250	100	100	2	93
Bombay Land and Building Co., Ld.	400	500	500	3 pr.ct.	630
Bombay Flour Mill	1,800	500	500	Rs. 37½	870
Deccan Ice Co.	1,170	100	100	4 pr.ct.	15
Deccan Paper Mills	1,000	500	50	5 pr.ct.	395
Delhi and Northern India Flour Mills	1,500	200	200	Rs. 14	155
Geyer&Co., Ld.	500	100	70	..	70 nom
Indian Guarantee Surety Ship Assn	5,000	100	10	10 pr.ct.	14
John Roberts & Co.	1,500	100	100	10 pr.ct.	100
Kemp & Co.	4,000	200	175	26½	307
Kurrachee Landing	500	500	300	30	100
Maharanee Ice Manufacturing Co.	3,500	100	100	Nil.	36
Marcks & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	Rs. 10	91
NapierHotel Co	2,000	100	100	9 pr.ct.	51xd
NapierFoundry	1,000	100	200	..	60
Oriental Govt. Security Life Insurance	5,000	200	50	12 pr.ct.	180
Oriental Loan	5,000	20	30	8 pr.ct.	17
Phillips & Co., Ld.	4,000	100	100	7 pr.ct.	77
Port Canning Co.	6,000	1,000	1,000	20	470
Prince of Wales Fire In.	250	8,000	1,000	N dvd.	2,350
Royal Flour Mills	2,500	100	100	..	30
Soundy & Co	1,000	100	100	9	80
Southwell and Austin, Ld.	Ord. 1,000	100	100	5 pr.ct.	50
Do.	Pref. 1,000	100	100	10 pr.ct.	100
Treacher & Co.	2,000	500	all	85	965
Thacker & Co.	1,500	100	100	10	93
Telephone Co.	9,200	25	25	5-8	19½

PRICES OF BULLION, &c.

English Bar Gold	Rs.	23	
China Leaf	"	22-12	
Pekin. Bar Gold old	"	22-13	Nominal.
Do. do. new	"	22-10	
Australia do.	"	22-14	
Bombay do.	"	22-8	
English Sovereigns	"	14-4	
Do. Drazons	"	14-3	
Bar Silver 17 Betterness	"	109-10	
Do. 17½ do.	"	109-13	
Carolas Dollars	"	224	
Mexican do.	"	223	Notsinal.
Five-Francs	"	181	

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Municipal Corporation, 3-30 p.m.
R. A. Athletic Sports, Colaba.
"At Home" by Colonel Pearse and Officers R. A., Colaba.
Results of the Matriculation Examination.
Gaiety Theatre, Stanley's Opera Company, 9 p.m.
Skating Rink, Mon. D'Arc's Marionettes, 9 p.m.
Dance at the Ordnance Mess.

VESSELS ARRIVED.—The following vessels sailed yesterday:—Kapurthala (s), from Karachi; and Arab (s), Marseilles.

VESSEL SAILED.—The steamer Nerbudda sailed yesterday for Galle.

PRINCE'S DOCK.—The s. s. Sullamut and Arab entered the dock yesterday.

VICTORIA DOCK.—The s. s. Deccan entered the dock yesterday.

FALL OF A HOUSE.—On Monday evening, at 6 o'clock, an empty three-storied house at Modikhana, which was to have been pulled down by the owner owing to its delapidated state, suddenly collapsed. Fortunately no one was injured, the tenants having vacated it some days previously.

BOMBAY RIFLE CLUB.—The second competition for the I. R. A. "Bayley Contest" will take place at Coorla, to-morrow, at 6-30 a.m. Twenty prizes, value Rs. 375, distances 500 and 600 yards, one sighting shot and seven competition at each distance. Entrance fee, Re. 2. Entries can be made on the range.

THE HON. MR. J. NUGENT.—*Capital* of the 16th instant welcomes the Hon. Mr. J. Nugent back to Calcutta in these terms:—"We are glad to see the Hon. Mr. J. Nugent back in Calcutta. He is not an adept in the new school of chivalry and courageous policy; but he has honest convictions and the courage of his opinions. Men like this unfortunately are getting rarer every day."

A DONATION FROM H. E. LORD HARRIS.—We have been requested by the Secretary of the Bombay East Indian Association to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a donation of Rs. 30 from his Excellency Lord Harris towards the schools established by the Association. This, we are given to understand, is the second donation which his Excellency has been pleased to give to the Association.

ARYA SANGIT SAMAJ.—The second annual general gathering of the Samaj was held under the presidentship of Mr. Hemraj Pragjee, at the Samaj rooms, on Monday. The annual report for the year ending 31st October last was read and confirmed, and the rules and regulations of the Samaj framed by the managing committee were also read and confirmed. The following gentlemen were appointed the officers and the members of the managing committee for the ensuing year:—Mr. Shamja Shivjee, president; Mr. Hemraj Pragjee, vice-president; Mr. Sunderlal Ganeshlal, secretary; Mr. Gokaldas Madonjee Mody, treasurer; and Messrs. Juthubhai Harakhchand Desai, Ratanshaw Vunmali, Ranchoddas Laljee, and Lukhmidas Tribhowandas, members. The gathering was dissolved after the usual vote of thanks to the chair.

CONGRATULATORY ADDRESS.—A large meeting of the leading Jain members of Bombay was held on the 17th instant, at the residence of Sheth Premchand Roychand, in Champagully, to consider what steps should be taken to show respect to Mr. Gulabchand Motichand Damania, B.A., LL.B., who recently passed the solicitor's examination. It was unanimously resolved that Mr. Gulabchand Motichand Damania should be presented with an address at an evening party to be called in honor of him to-morrow (Thursday), at 9 p.m., at the bungalow of Sheth Premchand Roychand, at Byculla, Love Lane. A managing committee was then formed to supervise and arrange the above work. The following are the names of the gentlemen of the managing committee:—Sheth Premchand Roychand, Veerchand Deepchand, Tulakchand Manockchand, Fakirbhoy Premchand, Manguldass Chhaganlal, Premchand Dharamchand, Mohanlal Magunbhai, Motichand Harakhchand, Dayachand Malukchand, Heerachand Motichand, Veerchand Raghovjee, and Navalchand Udeychand.

THE THEFT OF JEWELLERY BY A SERVANT.—At the Girgaum Police Court yesterday, Fateh Mahomed Lal Mahomed was brought up on remand and charged before Mr. W. R. Hamilton, Second Presidency Magistrate, with the theft of jewellery, valued at Rs. 2,144, the property of his master Liakat Alikhan, a *jagirdar* at Hyderabad. It will be remembered that about two months ago the complainant and his servant (accused) came to Bombay, and took up their residence at a *Moosafarkhana*, Bellasis Road. During the complainant's absence the accused stole the ornaments from his master's box and absconded. The matter was reported to the police, who at once went to Byculla railway station where they found the complainants' box on a bench. The police opened the box and found therein a portion of the stolen property. The accused was searched at the station, but as he could not be found, telegrams were sent to Hyderabad for the arrest of the accused if he should be there. The accused was arrested at Karachi and brought to Bombay. The accused pleaded not guilty, but the Magistrate convicted him on the evidence and sentenced him to undergo two years' rigorous imprisonment and also to pay a fine of Rs. 500 or in default six months' further rigorous imprisonment.

LECTURE ON SHORTHAND.—Mr. Thomas Allen Reed, vice-president of the National Phonographic Society in London, who arrived in Bombay from London on Monday, and will proceed to Nagpur to report the National Congress, delivered a lecture the same evening, in the Town Hall on phonography and the practicability of organising a branch of that society in Bombay. A large audience assembled, Professor Oxenham presiding. Mr. Reed, being introduced to the assembly said he regretted he had not been previously informed of the present arrangement. He was not aware that he would have to address such a large audience that evening till after his arrival in the harbour on the mail steamer that morning. After dwelling upon the development of phonography he pointed out the advantages derivable by aspiring students. In explaining the difficulties in pronunciation that were experienced by persons not conversant with English, Mr. Reed gave several instances of the various sounds in which embarrassment occurred. He showed how the matter could be simplified in phonography and illustrated his remarks by means of a blackboard. With reference to the constitution of a branch of the Phonetic Society in Bombay, he said that in England the Association had turned out many duly qualified teachers during the past year by means of examinations. He thought there was a large field in Bombay for young men and women who had acquired a knowledge of shorthand for obtaining a good livelihood; but in advising the more anxious before him for joining the Society they were to remember that the system could not be learnt without much diligent study. The lecturer concluded with a practical illustration of how the system of phonography could be adapted to the vernacular languages, when the chairman proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the speaker, which was carried by acclamation. A similar compliment having been paid to Professor Oxenham the proceedings terminated.

A DISPUTE ABOUT A SAFE.—At the Esplanade Police Courts yesterday, before Mr. C. P. Cooper, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. Yorke Smith, solicitor, appeared for Tokarsey Tricumjee and Ramjee Gunga, against whom notices were obtained to show cause why processes should not be issued on an information filed by a woman, named Samrathbai. Mr. Bland appeared for the prosecution. The complainant in her information charged the accused with housebreaking by night for the purpose of committing theft. She admitted having intimate relations with a certain Tricumjee Veljee for a period of twelve years before his demise. Tricumjee was Tokersey's father, and resided in his family-house near the Mandvis Bridge, and had allowed her the possession of the fourth storey of the premises whilst alive. Complainant's ornaments and documents were secured in a safe at these lodgings which she left on the night of the 11th instant to perform certain ceremonies before a shrine at Mahakali. During her absence the accused in company with ten other persons broke into complainant's room, and removed the safe that contained her valuables worth Rs. 1,000 and an account book of Rs. 10,000 which sum she had lent to Tricumjee besides other valuable documents and securities. Complainant could not specify the amount of the property that had been stolen and attributed the action of the accused in removing the safe to their fraudulent and dishonest intention for destroying legal evidence of her just claims upon the estate of Tricumjee. Mr. Smith in arguing against the notices said that since Tricumjee's death the complainant's connection with the house had ceased, and she had now no business to remain in it. Mr. Nicholson had, under instructions from the executors of Tricumjee's estate, affixed his own seal to the safe. This seal had been removed by the complainant who had no right to do so. Mr. Smith suggested that the lock of the safe which had got jammed should be broken open in the presence of the solicitors of both parties and an inventory made of the contents. Mr. Bland declared his readiness not to adopt further action in the matter if the account book and ornaments were made over to his client, but pointed out that the action of the accused constituted a grave criminal offence. The case was adjourned to the 5th proximo, pending the adoption of the course suggested by Mr. Smith.

THE MAHIM SANDS MURDER.

YESTERDAY afternoon, Dr. Blaney, the Coroner, resumed the inquest at the morgue, touching the death of Inas Sirvan, aged 18 years, who was found lying dead on the Sands, near Mahim Causeway, with his throat cut on Friday, the 11th inst.

Dr. Barry, acting Chemical Analyser to Government, deposed to making an examination of various articles sent him. He detected the presence of mammalion blood on the articles. He found in a moist stain upon a *dhotur* the presence of alcohol, but the quantity was extremely small. The alcohol found on the *bundle* could not have been on it a week before he received it.

Chimna Dajee, a barber, deposed that he knew the accused, who, on the day of the balloon ascent, came to him, and asked for the loan of his razor. When asked to return it Bhow said that he had lost the razor, and offered 8 annas as its price. The razor the police found lying near the body of the deceased, was shown witness, who identified it as the one he had lent to Bhow.

Tookaram, tailor, said that he knew the accused, Bhow. About four weeks ago witness had patched a *dhotur* belonging to the accused. He saw the *dhotur* produced before the Coroner and recognised it as the same he had repaired about twenty days ago. Witness recognised his work in the patch, which was on the *dhotur* produced.

Tarachand Nanjee deposed to having sold one pice worth of soap to the accused. He recognised a piece of the soap-cake produced before the Coroner, as the same he sold to the accused.

Inspector Butterfield deposed that on the 11th inst. he went to Koliwada and collected several friends of the deceased. One of them gave him information in consequence of which he directed a police jamadar to arrest Bhow Mahadoo. While he was making inquiries the Marwaree, Hoopa Mana, came forward and produced the three gold rings belonging to the deceased. He also produced his books and pointed out certain entries, which the witness initialled.

Inspector Roberts gave the details of the case describing how he found the body of the deceased. After some further evidence had been recorded, the Coroner summed up the evidence at some length and the jury after a short consideration unanimously returned a verdict of wilful murder against Bhow Mahadoo.

HIGH COURT.—ORIGINAL SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. Justice PARSONS.)

DISPUTE BETWEEN A KHAN BAHADUR AND A SIRDAR BAHADUR.

KHAN BAHADUR AKBAR ALI AND ANOTHER *vs.* SIRDAR BAHADUR MIR ABDUL ALI AND OTHERS.

THE plaintiff, late head of the detective police in Bombay, sought to have it declared that a deed, dated the 2nd March, 1890, was void and inoperative, that it may be ordered to be delivered up by the first defendant to be cancelled; that he may be ordered to deliver up all the properties of which he has taken possession under cover of the deed mentioned, to account for the rents and profits thereof; and also for an injunction and for the appointment of a receiver. A rule *nisi* for an injunction was, at the instance of the plaintiff, granted by the Hon. Mr. Justice Bayley on the 8th October last.

Mr. Jardine, instructed by Messrs. Wadia and Ghandy, appeared for the plaintiffs; and Messrs. D. Daver, Manker, and Mir Sarfaraz Ali, instructed by Messrs. Nanu and Hormusjee for the first and third, by Mr. H. Khan for the second, and by Mr. Merwanjee Saklatwalla for the rest, appeared for the defendants.

On the application of Mr. Jardine, consented to by the other learned counsel, his Lordship passed a consent decree, the terms of which had been reduced to writing, and which was handed into court. The court by the decree declared the original trust-deed, dated 2nd March, 1890, to be null and void, as also the deed of gift, dated 25th July, 1888. The first defendant was also to hand over to the plaintiff the original deeds and other papers, relating to the plaintiff's properties. The deed of gift, dated 3rd October, 1872, executed by the first plaintiff, was also declared to be null and inoperative. The land and dwelling-house in Bhendy Bazaar were to be held and enjoyed by the plaintiff Umda Begum for her life, and after her death they were to be sold by public auction, and the proceeds were to be divided among the six sons of the plaintiff in equal shares after setting aside a sum of Rs. 3,000 for the death ceremonies of the plaintiffs and also for the Mohurrum ceremonies. All the imputations made by the plaintiffs in the plaint and elsewhere against the first defendant, Sirdar Mir Abdul Ali, were hereby absolutely withdrawn. The decree referred in detail to distribution of property among the members of the family. All outstandings and debts due at the date of the decree were to be recovered by Khan Bahadur Akbar Ali and appropriated by him to his own use absolutely. The parties to be at liberty to apply to the court or to the judge in chambers, if necessary. Each party to pay his own costs.

HIGH COURT.—APPELLATE SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. Justice JARDINE and the Hon. Mr. Justice TELANG.)

PROPERTY STOLEN IN A DACOITY.

IMPERATRIX *vs.* KALAPPA BIN SHIDGOWA AND OTHERS.

THIS was an appeal from a decision of Mr. Venkatrao B. Inamdar, Joint Sessions Judge of Bijapur, who, on the 21st August last, found the first three accused guilty of receiving property stolen in the commission of a dacoity, and the others of aiding and abetting the offence; and sentenced the first accused to one year's rigorous imprisonment, and a fine of Rs. 200, or in default further rigorous imprisonment for three months; the second and third accused to seven years' rigorous imprisonment each; and the fourth and fifth accused to one year's rigorous imprisonment each. Mr. Ganesham Nilkant appeared for the first accused; and Mr. Gardine, with Mr. M. C. Apte, for the rest of the accused; while Mr. N. G. Chandawarker (for the Government Pleader) appeared for the Crown.

Mr. Justice Jardine, in delivering the judgment of the Court, said:—The case for the prosecution is that some of the villagers of Kiri Bennur arrested four strangers on suspicion that they were thieves, and after taking them above a mile towards the village discovered that three of them had each a bag containing rupees. On nearing the village, three of the four escaped; the other three with the three bags were brought to the first prisoner Kalappa, then acting as police patel who sent for the kulkarni and revenue patel 2 and 3. These came with two village servants (prisoners 4 and 5) who were present and aided them in what happened after. The strangers and the money were next taken into the kitchen of the witness Bhimangowda, where the money was divided between the first three prisoners, its amount being the exact sum of Rs. 2,500 of which prisoners 1, 2 and 3 each took Rs. 500 and a sum of Rs. 1,000 was reserved to be used for the expense of legal defence in the event of the offence coming to the notice of the authorities. After this it is said that the three strangers were let go. Those events occurred on the afternoon of the 11th June 1891. The first prisoner admitted his guilt on the 12th June, and he handed over to the chief constable, who made inquiry that day, a sum of Rs. 500 from a deposit as his share of the spoil. He also made a full confession before the Committing Magistrate on the 4th July, three days after his arrest which took place so late as the 1st July.

The Sessions Judge thinks the confession is not to be relied on, and considers it was made under the influence of promise of pardon made by the police. The second assessors thinks the police used some pressure. But both the joint Sessions Judge and the two assessors believe Kalappa to be guilty of the charge, and the pleader for this prisoner here has not been able to point to any evidence showing that any inducement was offered by the police. It may be that Kalappa had some expectation that if he made a clean breast of the matter he might possibly be used as Queen's evidence; and it is argued with good sense that his long immunity from arrest after his having given up the Rs. 500, and after the witness had informed against him, might increase this expectation. The fact remains, however, that Kalappa practically pleaded guilty in the Court of Session and did not repudiate his former story by declaring his own innocence or that of the other prisoners whom he accused, though his statements in that Court about intention are meant to extenuate his own guilt and apparently to magnify theirs. It is possible that the charge might more appropriately have been based under some other section of the Penal Code, but we do not think there is occasion for our interference, and we now dismiss the appeal of the prisoner Kalappa. The case against the other prisoners although supported by much direct evidence, which the Joint Sessions Judge and one assessor believed was looked upon by the other assessors who delivered a long and careful opinion as the result of false testimony of the principal witnesses and fabrication of evidence by the police with whose views about ruining these prisoners, he thinks, the first prisoner fell in. As was pointed out by Mr. Apte at the trial, and by Mr. Jardine at the appeal, there are some important improbabilities and other great discrepancies to which points it is argued, and we think rightly, that the Court below has not given sufficient consideration. It appears that the witnesses did not give information to the chief constable on the 12th June when he was at the village. One witness (No. 15) states the contrary; but this witness made in examination-in-chief a statement that the chief constable recorded his statement that day. In re-examination he said this was not the case, and the whole result of the evidence appears to be that the chief constable called the witnesses to Khed and kept them there several days, and that he recorded their stories on the 14th, 15th, and 16th. It is argued that the above circumstances, and the discrepant evidence combine to show that the witnesses have been tutored. Turning to the probabilities of the case, we think that although as the Judge and both assessors believe, some strangers may have been caught and taken to the patel, and afterwards released, it is doubtful whether they had money or ornaments, at least to the large amount stated. The ryots suspected them because their ploughs or agricultural implements had been missed, and it was only after a rather long walk that they found out that their prisoners had these bags of silver money. It was said that one of the strangers said the bags contained onions, but nobody could have been deceived by such an answer. The next improbability is that the patals and kulkarni would in circumstances of semi-publicity have divided the spoil at Bhimangowda's kitchen, Bhimangowda looking on and talking to them while the division went on, and Thakappa looking on and talking with Bhimangowda. Other people too, came and tried to get in when the door, which was open much of this time, happened to be shut. The arrest of the suspected thieves had caused excitement, and a score of villagers had come to the patels's house and afterwards were sent roughly away. No reason appears for the village officers having acted in disregard of all precautions, for their choosing Bhimangowda's kitchen for the taking and division of the money, for their making Bhimangowda their confidant, and even letting him know that Rs. 1,000 were to be set aside to meet the expenses of prosecution for the crime. This alleged openness is the more improbable as there is no suggestion that Bhimangowda or any other spectator got any bribe for silence or connivance, and it is admitted by Bhimangowda that he and the accused Kulkarni have a dispute about *man-pan*. There is abundant evidence of factions in the village, and that the patel Kalappa belongs to one faction and the revenue patel and the kulkarni to the other, and some witnesses say that the two last have not been to Kalappa's house for two years, neither have the prisoners 4 and 5. Witness 18 deposes that Kalappa had about two months previous to this affair reported against prisoners 2 and 3 about an insult. As often happens enmity may have been incurred by these officers doing their duty, and it seems that prisoner 2 reported against witness 18 and against the brother of the important witness Shivya for cutting Government trees. The need of caution in dealing with such witnesses is triplicated by the fact that their statements were not made till two or three days after, *i.e.*, during the time they were detained by the police for several days at Khed, and by the important divergencies in the evidence which we will notice further on. It is, therefore, necessary to test the improbable story by some admitted facts. No property identified as that taken by the prisoners was found with prisoners 2 to 5. The Joint Sessions Judge thinks this circumstance indicates guilt, but as the Rs. 500 taken by prisoner 1 were recovered in the village, the very next day when the chief constable with seven or eight policemen was in the village, the disappearance of the other Rs. 2,000 appears to us to cast doubt on the story of the prosecution. The Joint Sessions Judge remarks that it is "not wholly a myth," and then in spite of the discrepancies and improbabilities gives full weight to the direct evidence. The prosecution alleged that prisoners 2 and 3 brought two gold ornaments to a goldsmith named Shidappa, who melted them down into two bars, one being twice the weight of the other as directed, and that he gave these bars to prisoners 2 and 3, and that prisoner 2 returned his bar to him to be made into an ornament. The Joint Sessions Judge believes this entirely unsupported statement. The second assessor states a different opinion—he thinks it clear that the finding of the gold bar is part of a conspiracy to ruin prisoners 2 to 5. He says:—"The piece of gold was not found in the goldsmith's house at the first search. It was found at the second search. I infer from this that it was not part of the stolen property, but was latterly put in by the police to create evidence. However, this may be, the only witness to connect this gold with the offence or the prisoners 2 and 3 is the goldsmith. But he is manifestly a false witness. When his house was searched first, he says this gold was in a box. But the evidence is clear that the box was most carefully searched and no gold found either there or in the house at all. If the goldsmith's story is true, he must have been in league with the prisoners at the time, but we are of opinion that the goldsmith's later statements when he produced the gold ought not to be believed. There has been some disposition on the part of the police to speak rashly against the prisoners, as appears from the examination and cross-examination of the constable (witness 30) about prisoner 3's statements, when taxed with the possession of money. The second search was on the 15th June, which is the second day of the assembly of the witnesses at the police quarters at Khed. We must next examine the discrepancies, which if cross-examination is of any avail for the discovery of truth must be treated as tests of the stories. We disagree with the Joint Sessions Judge in treating them as trivial; unless such contradictions are examined with proper care, innocent men will be in danger of conviction on false direct evidence which is easily procured. The Joint Sessions Judge fails altogether to notice that the statements originate in nearly every case two or three days later at the police quarters at Khed, and he appears to have given greater credit to the statement of the prisoner Kalappa than they are entitled to. It is curious to notice that the one eye-witness of the division and confident of the prisoner Bhimangowda did not mention the eye-witness Thakappa at all in examination-in-chief, nor in cross-examination, except as an inmate of his house absent that day at another village. In re-examination only he asserts that Thakappa having returned from the other village about an hour before sunset, arrived while the division was going on, and saw it, was told to go away and went. Bhimangowda has a quarrel with prisoner 2 about *man-pan*. The Joint Session Judge, however, believes what these two eye-witnesses say, and after noticing that the prisoner Kalappa belongs to the faction opposite to that of the kulkarni, and revenue patel attaches weight to the probability that Kalappa being young and inexperienced would call them in. But we are of opinion that the report of the words put in Kalapppa's mouth to excuse his own guilt have an artificial air: Kalappa was anxious to obtain a pardon: what he confesses to have done was obviously wrong, risky, and criminal, and his implication of the others with whom none of the spoil was found is open to much suspicion. The Joint Session Judge does not deal in detail with the contradiction nor notice Thakappa's own statement that he has suffered six months' rigorous imprisonment for embezzling Government money. This was when he was acting as patel. He had also had a quarrel with prisoner 2 about a procession. His story differs greatly from Bhimangowda's, whom he represents as merely peeping in through the door, and not taking part in the coversation of the prisoners; and while Bhimangowda makes Thakappa come and go away at once, Thakappa makes himself see all the transaction. Thakappa whom the Judge calls a busy-body, says he set machinery in motion at once to convict the prisoners by going out and happening to meet a Wadar named Shivya, telling him to go to the town of Indi and inform the chief constable. He makes Shivya start off on this errand there and then. But Shivya says he had doubts and after going home went again and found Thakappa and questioned him further before he started for Indi. Thakappa admits that he did not speak to the foujdar who came next day, and that his first statement to that officer was made at Khed. Shivya only appeared as a witness when the trial was going on at the Sessions: he appeared there not on summons but as a volunteer: he overheard his name mentioned by another witness: he went to Indi at Thakappa's desire on the mere hope of getting a present, and he expected a reward for himself if the prisoners were convicted. He is not a village servant but belongs to the very low and ignorant caste of Wadars. About 6 months before warrants were issued against his brothers, on the report of prisoner 2, that they had cut Government trees. All these facts are left unnoticed by the Joint Sessions Judge in his judgment; and this Court had not the aid of any observations there on either his credit or demeanour. The judgment also leaves unnoticed Kallappa's statement that he Kalappa (not Thakappa) sent Shivya to the chief constable. Shivya further differs from other witnesses in making out that the news of a dacoity at the house of a jaghirdar at Ankalji had reached Hiri Bennur on the afternoon of the 11th June; and says that Thakappa told him the arrested strangers were those dacoits, but Thakappa does not mention this. There is no corroboration of Shivya's story that he went to Indi; he says he met nobody all the long way, other witnesses say they tried to enter the kitchen through the shut door, and were repulsed, but these contradict Bhimangowda, who says the door was open. Besides these, there are minor contradictions which we need not recite. The case against prisoners 2 to 5 rests substantially on what Bhimangowda, Thakappa and Shivya depose. This Court is of opinion that they cannot be held to be true witnesses; and indeed their discrepancies heighten the improbable nature of their stories. The learned pleader who appeared for the Crown made no serious attempt to show that the story was probable or the testimony true. It remains to add that the police seem not to have heard of the Ankalji dacoity till the 12th June; the property said to have been with the strangers is not shown to have been stolen at the dacoity; and it is very unlikely that the actual dacoits would remain for some hours with Rs. 2,500 and gold ornaments in the bags, in the villager's fields, watched suspiciously by the villagers, in the open daylight. The Joint Session Judge gives weight to the evidence (chiefly the report of a conversation which can be invented at any time) which goes to extenuate the guilt of Kalappa. We think it unnecessary, however, to suppose that his dishonest taking of Rs. 500 is due to inexperience; many experienced adults steal money. We must point out again that the mere statements of a fellow priso

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THE EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED on SATURDAY and MONDAY, the 26th and 28th December, 1891, these days being the Public Holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act 1881. FRIDAY the 25th being Christmas day, as also on THURSDAY, 31st December. The 1st January (being New Year's day.)

SHROFF BROTHERS, TO-DAY. ALL NEW XMAS AND NEW YEAR PRESENTS, CHEAPEST PRICES. 42, CHURCH GATE STREET, 52, ESPLANADE CROSS ROAD, MARKET.

MESSRS. MARCKS & Co., Ld., WATCH AND CLOCK-MAKERS, MANUFACTURING JEWELLERS. TOWER AND TURRET TIME-KEEPERS. SUPPLIED with ONE FACE TWO, THREE, or FOUR FACES, without attachment for striking, or for STRIKING THE HOURS, HALF HOURS AND QUARTERS, and with CHIMES. The TOWER & TURRET TIME-KEEPERS are guaranteed of the finest Workmanship, and are put up in position and regulated by specially trained Clock-Makers.

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L. R. W. FORREST, Honorary Secretary.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

TUESDAY EVENING, DEC. 22.

CONSOLS remained at Friday's quotation of 95⅝ in London yesterday; and Indian Sterling Loan was unaltered at 103½; but the market rates of discount were ½ per cent. higher on short London Bills, and ⅜ on six months' sight Indian Bank Paper, at 2½ and 2½ per cent., respectively. The price of Bar Silver was unchanged at 43⅞d. per oz.; but there was decline in rates for Rupee Securities, say of ¼ per cent. in Fours, at £73¾, and of ⅜ in 4½ per cents, at £72⅝ while in New York, the metal was ⅜ cent. lower, at 94⅜, demand Exchange on London being ½ cent down, at 4·84½. The Exchange Banks buying rate in London on India at 30 days' sight was put down yesterday 1-16d., making it stand at 1s. 4 7-16d. Paris quotations come unaltered at 95½ for Rentes, and fcs. 25·20½ for Exchange on London.

The Wheat Market was firmer; but no change in prices is wired by Reuter.

Cotton in Liverpool closed steady last evening, Surats dull, and Arrivals quiet, the total sales having aggregated 12,000 bales, inclusive of the usual 100 East Indians. Both spot and arrival prices were unchanged, all round. The day's Imports were 26,000 bales. The Manchester Market was quiet.

In New York 7 15-16 cents was still the price of ready Mid.-Uplands; but Futures for March were 5 points lower, at 7·96 cents. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were pretty heavy at 53,000 bales, though again lighter than in either of the two preceding years, the comparison for the three years to date being as follows:—

	1891.	1890.	1889.
Monday's Receipts.	53,000	60,000	57,000
Two days' do.	88,000	105,000	93,000
Since 1st Sept.	4,405,000	4,058,000	3,935,000

Only a small business has been done in our local Cotton Market to-day, exporters having brought only 50 bales of new Bengals, at Rs. 172½; while the Mills have taken 900 bales, consisting of 300 bales each of new Dhulia, at Rs. 162½; and Julgaum, at Rs. 167½; 200 bales of old Bhownugger, at Rs. 152; and 100 old Pachora, at Rs. 145 per candy. The feeling has been quiet, and prices are unchanged.

WHEAT has been steady here to-day in sympathy with the firmer feeling on the other side, and a moderate business has transpired on the basis of previous quotations.

SEEDS have been taken to a very limited extent by shippers in a quiet market, the price of Linseed having further given way half-an-anna per cwt., other quotations being unchanged.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay on Sunday and yesterday were as follows:—

Cotton	3,192 bales.
Wheat	58,753 cwts.
Linseed	6,779 "
Gingelly	28,170 "
Poppyseed	3,466 "
Castorseed	1,207 "

FREIGHTS have been quiet, but steady for December-January shipment. Business has been done for Liverpool, for early January shipment, at 21s. 6d.; and for February shipment, to Hull, at 22s. per ton.

EXCHANGE opened with a quiet feeling this morning and has remained steady at a decline of 1-32d. on yesterday's rates. A small amount of Bank Telegraphic and Demand has been placed at 1s. 4 19-32d., and 1s. 4⅝d. respectively; but these cannot be quoted as current rates, which closed as follows:—

Bank Bills on Demand.....1s. 4 19-32d. per rupee.	
Do. Telegraphic .....1s. 4 9-16d.	"
Do. 3 months' sight ...1s. 4 11-16d.	"
Creditz do. .....1s. 4 25-32d.	"
Francs do. .....1·76¾.	"

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—There has again been a fall—and a more considerable one—in the price of Fours to-day, say to the extent of ⅜ to 7-16 per cent. from yesterday's final rates, the market having however closed steady at the decline, with the cash price at 106 7-16; the January Settlement at 106½; and the February account at 105⅞; the rate for 4½ per cents having been put down to 105.

SHARES have been neglected, and beyond a decline of Rs. 5 per share in a few Cotton Mill Shares, at our revised quotations, there is little change to report this evening. Bank of Bombay shares are Re. 1½ higher, at 981½. Bank of Bengal have advanced Rs. 5 to Rs. 1,000.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

NAPLES, DEC 21.

The B. I. S. N. Co's steamer Manora left here day before yesterday evening.

LIVERPOOL, DEC. 21.

The Anchor Line steamer Hispania left here for Bombay yesterday morning.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Mackenzie left here for Colombo, Madras, and Calcutta, on the afternoon of the 20th inst.

SUEZ, DEC. 21.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Alpine arrived here this morning.

The s. s. Clan Gordon left here this morning.

The s. s. Clan Murray from Calcutta, Madras, and Colombo, arrived here on the evening of the 19th inst.

PLYMOUTH, DEC. 21.

The P. and O. Co's steamer Shannon arrived here this morning.

HONGKONG, DEC. 22.

The Austro-Hungarian Lloyd's steamer Maria Teresa left here for Bombay this afternoon.

COLOMBO, DEC. 22.

Mail steamer Rosetta from China arrived.

Mail steamer Massillia from Aden arrived.

The M. M. Co.'s s. s. La Seyne reached Aden on Saturday night, the 19th instant.

The M. M. Co.'s Yarra left Aden for Europe on Monday, the 21st instant, at 6 p.m.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, DEC. 21.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed steady. Surats dull.

Good Dhollera	3 11-16
The Manchester Market has been quiet.	
Exchange on India, 30 days' sight...	1 4 7-16
2½ per cent. Consols for account...	95⅜
3 per cent. French Rentes.....	95½
4 per cent. Rupee Paper	73⅜
4½ per cent. "	72⅛
3½ cent. Sterling Loan.....	106½
Bar Silver	43½

TELEGRAPHIC WEATHER REPORT.

SIMLA, DEC. 22.

The pressure has increased over north-western India and decreased elsewhere. Readings are highest in the extreme north-west end, and lowest over the south of the Bay and off-west coast. Winds are north-easterly to easterly over the central parts of the country, and the greater part of the Peninsula, northerly over Burma and the head of the Bay, and variable elsewhere. The force is fresh on the Madras Coast. Temperature has risen in central parts of the country, and generally fallen elsewhere. The mean temperature is high for the season in all provinces except the Punjab. The greatest abnormal head is reported from the Central Provinces and the Peninsula. Showers of rain are reported from Wellington, Trevandrum, Belgaum, Cuddapah, Madras, Cuddalore, Trichinopoly, Negapatam, and Madura.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

LATEST dates of foreign messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m. of the 22nd December, 1891. (Difference in longitude allowed for.)

Via.	Latest Date. D.	H.	M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Minutes.
Turkey	21	3	33 p.m.	23	28
Teheran	22	1	10 p.m.		28
Suez	22	2	50 p.m.		19

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m. on 22nd December, 1891.

	Maximum Time. H.	M.	Minimum. H.	M.
From Calcutta.....	1	42	—	6
" Kurrachee	...	22	—	1
" Madras	...	20	—	1

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

BOMBAY.

BIRTH.

CANARAN—December 19, at Lower Colaba, Bombay, the wife of Trimbak Canaran, of a son.

DEATH.

KATRAK—December 22, at his residence, Naigaum, Mr. Dadabhoy Bazunjee Katrak. Funeral this (Wednesday) morning at 7 a.m. Deeply regretted by a large circle of relatives and friends.

CALCUTTA.

DEATH.

BANAJEE—Manockjee Rustomjee Banajee, Persian Consul of Calcutta, aged 76 years, died yesterday evening, at Calcutta. His third day Oothamna ceremony will take place at the Cowasjee Byramjee Banajee's Atush-Beram to-morrow, Thursday, at 3 p.m.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTH.

CLERK—December 18, at 3, South Parade, Bangalore, the wife of Louis S Clerk, Dental Surgeon, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CARPENTER—RICHTER—December 15, at St Andrew's Church, Lahore, by the Rev A R Macduff, Bishop's Chaplain, Lahore, Henry Carpenter, Chief Storekeeper, Bengal-Nagpur Railway, to Kate, only daughter of Rev G Richter, of Mercara, Coorg, and late House Surgeon, Lady Aitchison Hospital, Lahore.

LUSHINGTON—MACMULLEN—December 16, at Mian Mir, at St Mary Magdalene's Church, by the Rev Spence Gray, Stephen Lushington, Lieutenant, Royal Artillery, to Mabel Louise, daughter of Colonel F W Macmullen, 13th Duke of Connaught's Bengal Lancers.

DEATHS.

HENVEY—December 10, at Jalpaiguri, Bengal, accidentally shot, Frederick Charles Henvey, Assistant Conservator of Forests, second son of Frederick Henvey, late of the Bengal Civil Service, aged 21 years.

PORTER—December 10, at Ajmere, Emile George Gould Porter, second son of the late Alfred Porter (Sub-Engineer, Mhow, C India), aged 28 years.

SANDERS—December 13, at Ranigunge, at the residence of his daughter, H J Sanders, Station Master of Amballa Cantonment, for many years in the employ of the S P and D Railway and of the N-W Railway.

TYTLER—December 9, at Nagpore, Guy Montgomery, the infant son of F W Tytler.

The Bombay Gazette

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1891

THE resettlement of the Central Provinces which is now in progress has been the subject of eager criticism for some months past, and Government have not been slow to answer some of the censures which have been directed against their policy. But it was not until the Chief Commissioner lately met the "Raises and Darbaris of the Nagpur Division" in Durbar that a full statement of the official view of the matter was made available. It will be remembered that the complaints of which most have been heard have come from the Bilaspur district, in the Chhatisgarh Division, and that the complainants have been the Malguzars and other land-holders intermediate between the cultivators and the State. The cultivators' view of the case, so far as we know, has not yet found expression. There is no doubt that the enhancements made under the new settlement are considerable. In the Bilaspur district they represent an increase of 84 per cent. upon the settlement of 1868, to say nothing of the trebling of cesses, which now reach thirteen and a half per cent. In individual cases the increase is little short of enormous. In one instance, the particulars of which we set out some months since, the revenue demand was increased by over three hundred per cent.; and we have seen a list of a hundred villages in which, in every instance, the assessment has been raised from two figures to three. Nor is this the only complaint that the Malguzars have made. Under the old settlement Government were restricted to taking a maximum of fifty per cent. of the assets. The maximum has been raised, for the purpose of the present settlement, to sixty-five per cent. of the assets. This, the Malguzars say, would be bad enough even if the old method of reckoning assets had been adhered to. But a much broader definition of the term is now employed, and produce and rights which were not included amongst the assets in former times have now been brought into the calculation. Thus the homestead, which used to be reckoned at merely nominal rates, is now assessed at its full economic value. A similar course has been taken in regard to grass, fruit trees, cultivable waste, and miscellaneous products and possessions which have hitherto either escaped assessment or been only nominally assessed. The Malguzars and their advocates have contended that all this spells ruin for them. We have seen calculations which prove, as clearly as arithmetic can prove, that after the demands of Government have been satisfied nothing or less than nothing will be left to the Bilaspur land-holders. The arithmetic is undeniable, for two and two make four all the world over. But Government and the Malguzars are not agreed as to how far the figures put forward by the latter represent the actual facts of the case, and it is not to be wondered at that Government contend that the Malguzars will be much better off under the new settlement than they pretend they will be.

Now it is incontestable that the Settlement Department in the Chhatisgarh Division have had to deal with an exceptional state of things. The Division, and in particular the Bilaspur portion of it, has prospered enormously under the influence of the improved means of communication, by railway and otherwise, which have been provided since the expiring settlement was introduced. The population has increased by more than fifty per cent.; the cultivation, as Mr. Macdonnell pointed out at Nagpur the other day, has more than doubled, and prices, now that this "threshing floor of India" has been opened up to direct communication with Bombay and Calcutta, have risen enormously. The average rise is said to be not less than ninety per cent., while the price of some food-grains has gone up 150 per cent. The Malguzars have not been slow to take advantage of this. They have raised rents all round, and Mr. Macdonnell assures us that in many cases the ryots are paying them three and four times as much as they did when the old settlement was introduced. All this, it should be understood, applies especially to the Chhatisgarh Division, and the Central Provinces authorities are anxious to dispel the fears of the people in the Nagpur Division lest the same measures should be dealt out to them. The circumstances of the two Divisions are different. In Nagpur there has been much less extension of cultivation, and the Malguzars, having enhanced rents much less than their neighbours in Chhatisgarh, are told that they need not fear lest their assessments should be enhanced as freely as those of their neighbours have been. The main factor in determining the assessments under such a settlement system as that of the Central Provinces is the rent exacted from the ryots by the Malguzar, and "he that exacteth from" is a fair rule to work upon. Where rents are light the assessments accordingly will be light. But the rent, as we have shown, is only one of the factors comprised in the assets which Government share with the Malguzar. Mr. Macdonnell's explanation of the present method of valuing the assets does not go as fully as it might have done into the complaints that have come from Bilaspur. What he says is this, however, that instead of the settlement being based, as formerly, upon an estimate of what the assets ought to be, it is based upon their actual value at the time. Under the old settlement the landholders had to wait for the development of their estates to the value assessed by the settlement officer; now they are called upon to pay upon assets estimated at their present value. If this is so their position under the new settlement is by no means so much worse than that under the old as they represent it to be. Mr. Macdonnell throws no light upon the reasons which led the Government of India to sanction a maximum assessment of sixty-five per cent upon the assets. This is the most keenly criticised feature of the new settlement, and an explanation of it would have been of value. But it is of some practical importance to know that thus far no higher percentage upon the assets than sixty per cent. has been taken, and that as a rule Government will not take more than between fifty and sixty per cent. of the assets.

Much has been said as to an alleged breach of faith in regard to the duration of the Central Provinces Assessment. Sir Richard Temple once raised hopes of a permanent settlement. We do not know what that most energetic of Chief Commissioners would say on the subject now that the Malguzars have demonstrated the possibility of quadrupling the rents of the ryots in twenty years. If he is of the same mind on the subject as he was in 1867 he belongs to the class with whom Mr. Macdonnell summarily declines to argue. A permanent settlement in the Central Provinces would by this time have enriched the landlord, at the expense of the ryots on the one hand, and of the State on the other, and it may be doubted if Sir Richard Temple, after the enormous increase in the productivity of the country that has followed its opening up by railways, would hold to his opinion of nearly a quarter of a century ago. Considering the revenue history of the Provinces there is much to be said for the determination of Government not to give long currency to the new settlement. No final decision has yet been come to on the subject, but Mr. Macdonnell says that it will probably range in the various districts of the Nagpur Division from sixteen to twenty-two years, so that for the division as a whole it will perhaps be known as the "Twenty Year Settlement." In these days of extending communication, growing trade and rising prices, who, Mr. Macdonnell asks, can fairly look for a longer term unless indeed he be an advocate of a permanent settlement? It would not be easy to take up such a challenge as this. The "settlement," whether long or short, is not with cultivators, who would benefit only in a secondary degree from its longer duration. In the Nagpur Division they appear to have been on the whole fairly treated by the landlords, who may reasonably look for a recognition of their moderation by the settlement authorities. Mr. Macdonnell's statement ought, so far as that division is concerned, to have a reassuring effect; and though it is evident that the enhancements elsewhere have been large, he has given a reason for them which on the whole may be considered satisfactory.

THE Bishop of East Equatorial Africa, in a letter to the *Times*, rejoices over the result of the Exeter Hall meeting, which is to enable the British to remain in Uganda. It leads him to hope that "the large sum still required to carry out the civilising mission of Great Britain in that vast country" will be forthcoming. Wherefore he appeals to a larger constituency than can be addressed at any meeting to aid in securing the thorough settlement of the entire region in resisting the advance of the Arab slave-traders and followers of the Mahdi. In an epistle of twelve paragraphs thus his Lordship proceeds to recount the work of the mission and its necessities. Of six missionaries, of the Church Missionary Society, who left Usambiro four years ago, three are now dead. One of them, Mackay, died of an illness contracted whilst riveting the plates of a steamer they had found necessary for the lake, and since his death no further progress was made. Without a steamer the work the Mission has taken in hand appears to be impracticable; besides had there been a steamer in the lake the probabilities are the Mission would have landed an unbroken party. As it was two other missionaries died while waiting on the southern shore of the lake for means of conveyance. Of course, a railway would best serve the purpose, but failing that steamers will answer. For it is not only for the conveyance of missionaries that it is intended to be used. It is not merely proposed to teach the people but to coerce some of them, so the police are to use the steamer for patrolling purposes in the hope of coping more adequately with the slave-trade which Bishop Tucker declares is the greatest curse that afflicts humanity in Central Africa. To achieve its object the Mission requires £40,000, of which £25,000 has already been subscribed. This is enough to place a seventy feet steel steamer, of fifty tons burthen, already built, on the lake, maintain and man her for a period of two years. Once on the waters of the Nyanza, says the Bishop, not only will the work of civilization proceed but trade will be extended. The vessel it is urged will be a refuge in time of trouble, provide means of rapid communication with the missionaries, and connect the widely-scattered stations. Besides this she is to distribute British merchandise along the shores and be the pioneer of trade all round—the first, it is hoped, of a large flotilla, which shall supply markets of boundless extent. Missionaries in England without very much trouble, can raise any sum they choose to mention, and there can be little doubt that Bishop Tucker's hopes will be realised. His request is timely and there is much to recommend it.

THE Corporation yesterday decided by a majority of a little more than three to one of the members present to appeal to the Government of India, with the Secretary of State in perspective, on the infectious hospital question. Two amendments were proposed; one by Mr. Roughton—asking that counsel's opinion should be taken as to the legal liability of the Corporation in the matter. This course had been taken by the Government before proceeding to put the bludgeon clauses of the Municipal Act in operation. Mr. Roughton urged that it was advisable to ascertain exactly how the law stood. Several members protested that law had nothing to do with the matter, and that it would be waste of time to ask for legal opinion. The second amendment proposed that the recommendations of the Committee of experts should be accepted, the Government be informed that there was no intentional disrespect in simply "recording" an official communication which did not seem to require an answer, and pointed out that the Government were under a misapprehension in regard to the alleged breach of understanding, the letter from which a sentence was quoted, having clearly defined the intention of the Corporation to maintain the hospitals for times of epidemic. This amendment was submitted as affording a way of escape from a position which was no longer tenable when the Corporation declined to rest its case on the Municipal Act. It is somewhat hazardous to count upon either the Government of India or the Secretary of State overruling the Local Government on a matter so entirely local. Mr. P. M. Mehta, however, recalled the success which followed an appeal carried to the Secretary of State in respect to the diversion of a yearly sum of Rs. 15,000 from the police grant to the working of the Contagious Diseases Act in the City of Bombay. The Secretary of State overruled in that matter not only the local Government, but the Government of India which had declined to interfere. This reminiscence elicited cries of "Exeter Hall!" the influence exerted from that focus of English religious opinion having been very potent on that occasion. Still the augury was held to be good; popular influence of one kind or another might again operate, and the authorities in India be brought to time in this matter of the maintenance of an infectious hospital in Bombay. The result of the voting will be that a memorial will be sent to go to the Government of India, and in the not improbable event of insuccess in this quarter shall next be forwarded to London. In the meanwhile the infectious hospital will continue to be kept open as it has been since July at the cost of the Government, but after the expiry of the month of grace the amount will be claimed from the Municipal Fund. Can that claim be successfully resisted in a Court of Law? That is a point which may possibly afford scope for the exercise of legal acumen.

THE death of the Duke of Devonshire involves the transfer of the Marquis of Hartington to the House of Lords, and the devolution of the leadership of the Liberal Unionists in the House of Commons upon Mr. Chamberlain. The change will have less consequence now than it would have had three or four years since, for the present House has probably not many months before it, and when it is a question whether the Liberal Unionists as a party can survive the General Election the question who is to lead them is of quite secondary importance.

THE following order for the Proclamation Parade was issued yesterday:—"On Friday, the 1st January, 1892, the Anniversary of the Proclamation of her Majesty the Queen as Empress of India," the troops in garrison will parade on the General Parade-ground at 7.30 a.m., to fire a salute and *feu-de-joie* as laid down in S. R. O. 74 of 1878. Formation line facing W Half Intervals. Royal Artillery on the right. A Battery in action with 9-pounder guns drawn from the Arsenal. 2nd K. O. Yorkshire Light Infantry; 21st Bombay Infantry; 5th Bombay Light Infantry; and band massed. Dress—review order (summer clothing), the Ordnance Officer is authorized to issue the necessary ammunition to the Officer commanding Royal Artillery for an Imperial salute. Three rounds of blank ammunition per carbine, and rifle to be issued to the Royal Artillery and Infantry.

SIR JOHN F. DICKSON, K.C.M.G., whose death is reported, was a distinguished member of the Ceylon Civil Service. He was a son of Dr. R. Dickson, M.D., of Harmondsworth, Uxbridge, and was born in 1835. He was educated at Westminster, and Christ's Church, Oxford; entered the Ceylon Civil Service, in 1859; was appointed Police Magistrate of Galle in 1865, Service Tenures Commissioner, 1870; Government Agent for the North Central Provinces, 1873; for the Central Provinces, 1882. He was appointed Colonial Secretary for the Straits Settlements in 1885 and a member of the Legislative Council for the Colony.

A MEETING of the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation was held at the Municipal Office yesterday afternoon, when the only matter of any public interest—the claims of Messrs. Glover & Co., the contractors for the Tansa Dam Works—was deferred until a subsequent meeting.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR presided last evening at the distribution of prizes to the pupils attending St. Peter's Girls' School, Mazagon

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.]

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, Dec. 22.

At the Bow Street Police Court yesterday, Mr. Hastings, M. P., was charged with the misappropriation of Trust Funds amounting to £15,000. The accused was remanded, bail being refused.

THE MASSACRE OF CHRISTIANS IN CHINA.

The Vicar Apostolic in China telegraphs that the Native Christians who were lately massacred number close upon a thousand.

SEMI-OFFICIAL RUSSIAN STATEMENTS.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 21.

It is semi-officially stated that Russia has no intention to annex Corea and will not tolerate any designs upon Corea by other Powers.

It is also said that Russia is striving to come to a close understanding with Turkey, and that her overtures have been well received at Constantinople.

THE WEATHER IN GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, Dec. 22.

An intense frost has set in throughout Great Britain.

SENSATIONAL ACTION FOR SLANDER.

A sensational action for slander has occupied the Courts during the past week. The action was brought by the wife of Captain Osborne of the Coldstreams against Major Hargreaves, a retired officer, and his wife, the latter a cousin of the plaintiff, for accusing her of stealing and selling two pearls belonging to Mrs. Hargreaves of the value of £800.

On the opening of the Court to-day, the fifth day of the trial, Sir Charles Russell, counsel for the plaintiff, withdrew the case, and a verdict was accordingly entered for the defendants.

THE COMTE DE PARIS.

A denial is given to the statement published by the *Daily News* that the Comte de Paris has renounced his claims to the throne of France.

OBITUARY.

LONDON, Dec. 22.

The deaths are announced of the Duke of Devonshire, Sir Frederick Dickson, K.C.M.G., Mr. Peter Taylor, formerly member for Leicester, Lieutenant-General John Murray MacGregor.

NEWS FROM GILGIT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, Dec. 22.

No further movements have taken place at Gilgit on either side. Lieutenant-Colonel Durand is able to move about with the aid of crutches. Lieutenant Badcock's wound was in the arm, which was lacerated by a ball from a match-lock fired close by.

THE RAWALPINDI COMMAND.

Major-General Luck officiates in the Rawalpindi district during the coming summer. It is understood that that place is quite settled, as Sir W. Ellis is taking leave for domestic reasons.

THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF CAVALRY.

Colonel T. A. Cooke, Assistant Adjutant-General, will again officiate as Inspector-General of Cavalry, owing to the high price of forage.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.

The 16th Lancers and 7th Dragoon Guards will not wait to take part in the divisional exercises, but leave Meerut at once to return to their stations. Most of the native cavalry regiments are also getting off without delay.

THE MADRAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRAS, Dec. 22.

Mr. S. R. Turnbull has been re-elected chairman of the Madras Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. T. A. Taylor, vice-chairman.

LORD WENLOCK'S TOUR.

Speaking at Guntakul yesterday, the Governor said he regretted to hear of the considerable amount of scarcity among the agricultural portion of the community, and that he had come down there on purpose to have consultation with the Collector and Mr. Clogstonn, to draw out such a scheme as might meet the necessities of the case as far as they go. He was glad to find, however, on the whole, that the Anantapur district was not likely to be affected so generally as he was afraid from what he first heard. It might be, no doubt, in certain portions of the district that distress would prevail, but he hoped that the arrangements made would give labouring classes work which would enable them to provide for the bad time before them.

THE "IMPERIAL" DIAMOND CASE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, Dec. 22.

In the Jacob case to-day Mr. Woodroffe concluded his address to the jury shortly after noon. The Judge's charge to the jury was interrupted by tiffin, and was continued afterwards. The jury retired only for six minutes, and brought in a verdict of not guilty on all counts. The Judge simply discharged Mr. Jacob, there being no necessity for a written judgment. Mr. Inverarity immediately applied for the restoration of the diamond to Mr. Jacob, but this application was refused, Mr. Woodroffe representing that a civil suit for the recovery of the diamond or the 23 lakhs having that morning previous to the decision in this case been filed against Mr. Jacob, and before the Judge could dispose of the matter the diamond was attached in the civil suit. It is useless to say what opinion was expressed in regard to the Nizam's action in the matter. Here the opinion is that for both parties it would be best to drop the matter; but the Nizam's officers have determined to prosecute the case to the bitter end in spite of the Sessions Court judgment.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S RETURN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, Dec. 22.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief returns to Poona to-morrow. He will visit the military stations in Sind and Quetta in February next; and while at Karachi he will settle the question of the permanent establishment of a new depot, which has been opened there.

INSPECTION OF REGIMENTS.

General Blundell inspected the Worcester and Lancashire Fusiliers, and expressed his entire satisfaction with everything.

THE CONGRESS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MANMAR, Dec. 22.

At a public meeting held at Yeola 12 delegate were elected for the Nagpur Congress.

TABLE TALK.

[BY WALTER BESANT.]

LONDON, Dec. 4.

Suppose an editor in want of an article on the importance of Imagination in everything, to whom would he go for that article? Mr. John Morley or Mr. Leslie Stephen would turn out a good and serviceable paper on the subject. In lighter vein there are many—novelists and others—who would write pleasantly upon this theme. There are also many eminent hands accustomed to the leading article who would discourse more or less pleasantly. But Mr. Goschen has shown that, when he chooses, he can beat the literary craftsman at his own craft. Nobody knew that he was good for much more than figures, and behold! he appears as a writer of the first rank. His discourse on Imagination, published in last week's papers, is a great literary essay. It is a masterpiece. It ought to be—it must be—published separately. It is full of thought—new and original thought—the style is admirable; it suggests new and great ideas. Is it not, one asks, a great, a very great thing for this country, that politics should attract such men as Goschen and his colleague Balfour,—both rich men, independent of place, and men of the highest culture?

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Who is the greatest historian of modern times? Whose books of history are more widely read? Who teaches most history to the world? Ask your boys where they learn history. Not in school. There they learn the dry details—the dates and the treaties, and the treacheries. Out of school our boys learn history. Their historian, I regret to say, was not writing in my day. Look over your boy's shoulder. He is learning history; he is imbibing history with all his might. Ask him what man he would most delight to honour? "Henty," says the boy. Yes, my friend Macaulay is all very well; J. R. Green has his points; Freeman, Stubbs, Froude, and Lecky may pass for historians: the reviews are in league together to restrict the list of historians to such names as these. But the real, the true historian of modern times, is Henty—George Henty—Sir George Henty, K.C.B.—the Baron Henty—Bishop Henty; the Right Honourable the Earl Henty. He it is who provides history for the coming generation. I have a list before me—Blackie and Son's list—containing the titles of three and thirty books, all by Henty. Now just consider what this one man teaches a boy. He takes him to Carthage in the time of Hannibal; to Egypt under the Pharaohs; to Jerusalem in the time of Titus; to Scotland under Wallace; to the Spanish Main with Drake; to Saxon England under Alfred; to the fields of Cressy and Poitiers; to Afghanistan; to Ashanti; to Ireland under William III.; to Spain with Peterborough; to the French Revolution and the Reign of Terror; to India with Clive; to Gibraltar and its siege; to Waterloo; to the bombardment of Alexandria; to the American War of Independence; to the battles of Fontenoy and Culloden; to Venice in the Middle Ages; to the wars of Gustavus Adolphus; to the Rise of the Dutch Republic; to Mexico, Canada, Virginia, California. A boy who reads all these books has amassed, you will perceive, a vast amount of geography, history, manners, and customs. He takes up his school histories with a new understanding. "Henty for me," says the boy. There are lots of good writers for boys, but Henty is the favourite.

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It was quite a little society or brotherhood—almost of the olden time. They were all young, not one of them over thirty. Bravery was the common quality; enmity to the settled order the common bond; if they had another common quality it was dislike to any form of bodily or mental activity which may be called work; if they had any other common bond it was the resolution never to do any kind of work. There were young ladies—fair and sweet and tender damsels—among them; many of the men were noblemen of the highest rank—in their own estimation. As for their manner of life, they rose late, and breakfasted of the costly sausage or the delicate London egg; they dined like Roman gourmands on steak and onions, tripe, pigs' liver, and other dainty and delicate dishes. They drank the rich wines of Bass and Guinness, and after dinner they took tobacco and the glass that cheers and strengthens, and even inebriates. In the evening they set out for air and exercise, divided into little parties of two or three. They rambled in the suburbs chiefly. One of them, an engaging young man, with a white tie and a scarf pin, and a double chain, a masher of the first water, though rather heavy about the jowl, went first on a bicycle, followed by two of the fraternity in a pony carriage. Their business—call it not work—was to get into houses left without servants, and to clear them of everything they could stuff into a bag. When they had got their pony carriage pretty well full they drove home. They "used" a certain house, the landlord of which was so obliging as to receive the contents of the bags, and to pass them on to the worthy gentlemen who buy things without asking questions. Then they gave themselves over for the night to the higher intellectual pleasures of conversation, song, and dance. Alas! This society is now broken up. One day an inspector—uninvited, mind—put his head in at the door, and requested everybody to keep their places. Then the policemen—also uninvited—walked in, and handcuffed the whole brotherhood. And now the maidens whom they loved are weeping unregarded, and it will be many, many years before these gallant lads get free again. But is it not like a chapter out of Paul Clifford?

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Are we to go on learning Greek at school? Perhaps; I do not go to that kind of school any more, and I have nothing to say upon the subject. But as some of the letter-writers have asked that German should be taught instead, I beg to protest against the belief that either German or French is taught at any school with which I am acquainted. They teach French or German grammar and syntax, but they do not teach the language. Now, grammar and syntax do not constitute the language. Words are language. A boy wants the words; he wants to be able to read a foreign language first; to write it, perhaps ungrammatically, next; to talk it, perhaps roughly, last. I once knew a man who could read, write and talk all the European languages, except the Slavonic and the Basque. He learned a language with surprising ease, and he told me once how he did it. No grammar at first; afterwards, if you please; but at first the words; the names of things with the little parts of speech, the pronouns and prepositions, and the simpler verbs to connect them. If the language belonged to a family, as the Teutonic, he first learned the differences and so enabled himself to acquire a great number of words at once; in a very few days he was able to read and to speak the language. For instance, he learned Frisian—which is old English—in three days by talking to the people and reading. Of course, there are few men so endowed with the natural aptitude. But consider the girls who go to Cambridge without knowing anything of Greek, who after three years are ready to take high honours. They do not begin by learning grammar and syntax, you see. They read; they begin by learning the words.

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The Decay of Laughter. James Payn, who has long made the world laugh and will, I trust, long go on making us laugh, suddenly turns quite grave and says (with the least possible depression of the left eye) that people do not laugh so much as they formerly did. It is his latest joke—but the *Spectator* accepts the fact and argues upon it very seriously in a very charming paper, but then, unfortunately, I deny the whole assumption. I maintain that people laugh quite as much as they ever did, and there are just as many things to laugh at as ever there were. Nay, I think that people laugh a great deal more than they did. My rendering of the last generation but one is that it was an anxious generation, full of care; times were bad; men in business were failing; men of letters were desperately poor; the standard of comfort and ease was low; things were scarce; amusements were rare; the days were dull. When men did meet together, there was a kind of reaction, and they became boisterous. They sang songs and laughed; told old stories and laughed; played practical jokes and laughed; drank too much punch and laughed. Then they went home and were dull and gloomy. They had a gloomy religion; they were bound down by Puritanism; they were desperately dull. We see them in their moments of expansion, and we think they laughed like this every day. Not at all. They sat in sadness and reflected that they must soon die, and that, unless theology was all wrong, they must . . . . Yes; we laugh more; much more; we are happier all round than we were sixty years ago; we show it by cheerful faces, and a bubbling kind of laugh rather than a rowdy kind; we laugh readily; we laugh at fine points of humour; yet we are ready to laugh at the old-fashioned farce. Laughter in decay? No—no—no.

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There is an institution known as a Literary Letter, largely adopted by the provincial press. This letter, when written with knowledge and honesty, is a great help to current literature. The writer, it is true, is tempted to assume a position in the Inner Ring, where everything is known. Unfortunately, there is no Inner Ring in Literature. A good deal is known at the Society of Authors; something at the Athenæum, the Savile, and the Savage. But there is no Inner Ring. Formerly at certain taverns, such as the *Cock the Cheshire Chese*, or *Dick's*, one might learn pretty nearly all there was to be learned. But their time as literary hounds has gone by. Yet the Literary Letter has to be kept going, and a dreadful temptation continually assails the writer to invent. Sometimes he invents harmless, sometimes spiteful, now and then libellous, tarradiddles. For instance, the following paragraph has been cut out of a provincial paper and sent to me. I omit the names of the three writers mentioned in this amiable and mirthful production.

"Writers like A., B., and C., eager to make money, work away for dear life, without giving themselves the trouble to think, and the more their profits diminish the more copy they turn out. Many of them make a rule of sitting at their typewriters so many hours a day, and turning out what is called in Lancashire a 'day's darg,' so many lines of matter, whether they are in the mood or not.

"Compare this with Charlotte Bronte's method of waiting weeks at a stretch for the necessary inspiration.

"Mr. B. confesses that only during his summer holiday does he find time to glance at the books which everybody has been talking about, and that he is not more than five or six years in arrears.

"It was poor Anthony Trollope, I believe, who introduced the custom of setting himself a fixed quantity—so many words and so many lines to write a day—and now all our literaty handicraftsmen follow it as if they were doing piece-work on the sweating system.

The best imaginative work cannot, of course, be done on this plan, and we need not go further afield in search of the cause of the decadence of the novel. If Mr. B. ever starts his proposed school for novelists, let us trust his pupils will go upon precept rather than example."

Observe that this young gentleman makes five distinct statements of fact:—

1. The income of these three writers is decreasing.
2. Their production is increasing in order to make up, if they can.
3. They write without thinking and without stopping. The inference is that they write with no other thought than the making of money.
4. One of them confesses that owing to his continual production he is five years behind with modern literature.

Every one of these statements is an invention, and two certainly are libellous. Concerning these two certain laywers will perhaps make inquiry. One of the three men referred to is in a state of health which makes it necessary for him to winter abroad, and prevents any increase of production. The second has for many years produced comparatively little—a novel every two years or so. This writer never works more than three hours a day or so, and only when he "feels inspiration," as the literary letter-writer puts it. The third gives up his mornings to his fiction work—not every morning—but those mornings when the work demands it, because a work of fiction is often advanced far better by taking a solitary walk than by sitting at a table. He produces one novel every year, which takes him about ten months of continuous work. During this present year of Grace he has written this novel and two or three little bits of stories from old notes. Until a few years ago he used to write a Christmas story every year, which he has now discontinued. So much for his fiction. He is, besides, unpaid chairman of one big society and unpaid Hon. Secretary of another. He is also unpaid editor of a monthly paper. And he has a great deal of correspondence to conduct. This is not exactly an idle life, nor is it quite the life delineated in the Literary Letter. As for being behindhand with new books, that is, alas! quite true. It is only in the holidays that any busy man gets time really to read.

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Could we not make an appeal to editors for protection against this sort of thing? It is an age when personal details are demanded more and more. It is useless protesting against this demand. The *Times* itself gives every day a personal column, clearly because it is asked for. But our personal gossip ought not to be libellous or invented; it must not seek to damage, by false statements or suggestions, the credit or the character of anyone, whether he is a novelist or a shopkeeper. The question of what is fair criticism was raised in a recent case. The counsel for the paper concerned argued—I think with perfect fairness—that where criticism is invited, no one ought to complain if the judgment is harsh. When a book is sent to a paper for review an author should not complain. Or, if he thinks himself aggrieved, he should not send any more of his books to that paper. But when a paper admits a purely personal attack, filled with inventions calculated to damage the credit of any man in any profession, it seems time to ask what a remonstrance will effect; and if that fails, what other remedy is open.

WIDOW RE-MARRIAGE AMONGST THE SARASWAT BRAHMINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—The Marathi handbill, forwarded to you by a correspondent, was not issued with the consent of the general members of the Saraswat Goud Brahmin community. The handbill was issued by one of the members of the Baburao Ramchandra party, who had made a representation to the Swami some months ago for the excommunication of Dr. Bhandarkar and others. About forty souls met at the Balaji's Temple to read the edict of the Swami excommunicating Dr. Bhandarkar, his daughter, and her husband. But Messrs. Sadanand Trimbak Bhandari, Dinanath V. Madgaokar, and Vishnoo Y. Rele of the reform party strongly objected to the edict being read on the grounds, among others, that the sacred and solemn duty of the Swami who was a mere spiritual *guru* did not permit him to interfere in caste matters, that the majority of the members of the community who met at the Thakordwar Temple in the month of July last unanimously supported the widow-marriage, and that a few members of the community and the Swami had no right whatever to excommunicate them. I believe, the grounds of this strong objection put Mr. Babu Ramchandra and his adherents in mind of the recent decision of the High Court which made them tremble from head to foot and ultimately Mr. Babu Ramchandra thrust into his pocket the Swami's edict unread, and quietly went home with his adherents. The Saraswat Goud Brahmin community has not at all excommunicated the bride and her husband as falsely alleged by your correspondent, but Mr. Babu Ramchandra and his few adherents, with the assistance of the Swami, intended to do so but for the strong objection they were afraid of carrying out their intention. I hear that Mr. Babu Ramchandra and his adherents intend to meet somewhere and read the edict of the Swami to themselves, simply with a view to create agitation among the people. If they do so, I would strongly advise those whose names are mentioned in the edict, or those who are interested in social reform to resort to law and have the matter decided once for all.—Yours, &c.,

M.

REDUCTION IN TRAMWAY FARES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—Referring to the letter which appears in your to-day's issue over the signature of "Pro Bono Publico" I beg to point out that the fares for the distances between Bori Bunder and Elphinstone Circle, and Bori Bunder and Municipal Offices, if reduced to half-an-anna, would only be in conformity with the recent general reduction of fares, for which the public are obliged to the Bombay Tramway Company.—Yours, &c.,

Dec. 22. FAIR-PLAY.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S ART COLLECTIONS.

Sir George Birdwood has contributed to the forthcoming number of the *Journal of Indian Art* a paper on the Indian Collections at Marlborough House and Sandringham, which are described and illustrated in the number. In the course of his paper Sir George Birdwood says:—

The greatest gratification has been given to the Princes and Chiefs of India by the splendid manner in which the rich and rare gifts presented by them to the Prince of Wales during the visit of his Royal Highness to their country in 1874 have been permanently arranged in Marlborough House and at Sandringham Hall. The interest of his Royal Highness in the collections is inexhaustible, and the pleasure the knowledge of this fact has given the Native Princes and Chiefs should be a source of satisfaction to every Englishman capable of appreciating the incalculable public advantage of the relations between the Paramount Power and our proud and chivalrous feudatories in India being scrupulously and steadfastly maintained on a footing of the highest personal consideration and regard. Herein, indeed, has been the supreme utility of the five years' service in India, as Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army, of his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. India is the keystone of our vast commercial empire in the Old World extending in an unbroken sweep from the Cape of Good Hope to Australasia and China, and we should never forget that India was saved to us in 1857 by the loyalty of the Native Princes. Sir Owen Burne, in his volume, in the *Rulers of India Series*, on "Clyde and Strathnairn," summarising the warnings bequeathed to us by the Mutiny, observes:—"And one lesson will indelibly be engraved on the pages of its history, namely, that while the Native Princes of India, whom we mistrusted, brought their armies and influence to our aid, the Sepoy troops, on whom we relied, turned against us. From the day this experience was taken to heart dates the consolidation of our Indian Empire as it now exists."

Several of the princes have repeatedly expressed the desire to have photographs taken by Mr. W. Griggs of the handsome cases and rooms in which the Indian collections at Marlborough House and Sandringham Hall are so effectively displayed, and he has accordingly devoted the current October and January issues, published as a double number of the Journal of Indian Art, to the gratification of their wishes in this respect.

The illustrations given consist of portraits of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales; of external and internal views of Marlborough House and Sandringham Hall, particularly of the rooms containing the cases and trophies of the Prince's Indian presents; and finally of fifteen pages of photo-chromo-lithographs of a few of the presents themselves, selected either for their artistic merit, technical skill, or sumptuary splendour. Mr. Griggs has been greatly helped in photographing these various objects by the ingenious method adopted by the Prince of Wales of making them apparently self-luminous by means of electricity so disposed that on pressing a button, the cases containing them are at once filled, from innumerable invisible points, with a light as of brightest day; irradiated back from all this gorgeous encrustation of sapphire, diamond, emerald, and ruby on sword handles, scabbards, and belts, with a dazzling irridiscence only the magic of Ruskin could picture in words: and:—

"Within that circle none durst walk but he."

As a student of the special branch of art to which I have devoted myself, I value the Native States chiefly as vast preserves of the traditionary arts of India. As I have said elsewhere, they are as a garden enclosed against the destructive influences of the outer world by the powerful protection of the British Government; and what is above all things to be desired in the interests of Indian art is that the British Government itself should not overstep the wall of defence set up by it round about the Native States. The great dread is of the advancing tide of Western civilization in India; for whether the British Government were there or not, and all the quicker were it not there, the aggressive forces of our modern commerce, mechanical industry, and freethought, must in the end bring about the destruction of the ancient indigenous civilization of India and of its wise and wary founders, the Brahmanical Hindus. India is the last reservation of Aryan antiquity, the only chance of the indefinite survival of which is in the Native States, or, as they have been aptly called, "India of the *Rajahs*" and what is so much to be desiderated is that, by scrupulously sustaining their internal forces in equilibrium with those of the external world, we should perpetuate them as they are to the end of time. If Thebes and Babylon could have been placed under the protection of some paramount power all through the tumultuous Eastern history of the past three thousand years, and so handed down to the present day the still living practice of their archaic arts, how glorious it would have been! Something of the sort might yet be done for India; but we dare scarcely hope it, determined as the policy of the British Government in India ultimately is by the antipathic will of the ignorant, unhistorical masses of this country. No one denies the material good we are doing in India, the good that can be tabulated in "Statistical Abstracts" and paragraphed in "Blue Books." But for all this, "we," in the words once used by Dr. Leitner, "sadden the people." And inevitably, for we are daily breaking up their life of joyous fellowship with their ubiquitary deities, the local and national symbols of the only true God, and already, within the limits of our own territories, have irreparably injured the social, industrial, literary, and artistic culture that slowly grew up through the three thousand years before our apparition in the Indian Ocean with the simple existence they led with their autochthonous gods. We have multiplied the nation, but not increased their joy. Fortunately, the dominions of the more powerful, as also of the more secluded Native States, afford some present refuge from the growing evil; and there the life of the people continues, in all its phases, established firmly on its original religious basis, and the vernacular arts yet flourish in pristine purity.

Taken as a whole, the special value of the Indian collections of the Prince of Wales is that they are typical of the arts of the Native States. Prior to his Royal Highness' generous loan of them to the Indian Section of the Exhibition held at Paris in 1878, the manufactures of these States had nearly always been absent from international exhibitions; and they were then for the first time brought prominently to the notice of Europe, the effect produced being immediate, and abiding. The importance of the collections on account of their representative character, was very early recognised by the Prince himself, whose first act after they had all been safely received on board the *Serapis*, on her return voyage to England, was to give telegraphic instructions for preparations being made for their immediate transfer, on the ship reaching Portsmouth, to the India Museum at South Kensington. There they were publicly exhibited in 1876; and in 1877 at Bethnal Green, and in 1878 at Paris; and then, successively at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Aberdeen; and finally, in 1881, at York. And after being thus employed for six years to the best profit of this country and India, they were definitively installed in Marlborough House, and at Sandringham Hall, in the way shown in the accompanying plates.

One of the results of the prolonged public exhibition of the Prince's presents, was the creation of a demand all over Europe, and in America, for Indian handicraft wares suitable for furniture and household decoration, and for personal adornment. But this was not all. When his Royal Highness was leaving the galleries at South Kensington, after the preliminary inspection of the presents there on the first day of their public exhibition in June 1876, he observed:—"What we must now have is a great imperial museum of the industries of all India and the Colonies." This would seem to have become a fixed idea with his Royal Highness; and ten years later it was partially realised in the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of 1886; and, in the year following, by the founding, as a memorial of the Jubilee of the beneficent reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, of the Imperial Institute; wherein it is intended to provide the manufacturers and merchants of the United Kingdom with a permanent and absolutely exhaustive reference collection of the reproductive resources of the whole Empire, and with the latest current information on every development and ramification of our world-wide international commerce.

DEATH OF MR. MANOCKJEE RUSTOMJEE.

Mr. Manockjee Rustomjee died last evening at his residence in Chowringee, Calcutta. The deceased gentleman was well-known and an esteemed citizen of Calcutta, and held the post of Consul-General for Persia at that city. Mr. Rustomjee's age was 76, and he succumbed to a severe attack of bronchitis. The sad news of his death was received in Bombay last evening by his nephew, Mr. Cowasjee D. Rustomjee, Vice-Consul for Persia in Bombay. The Oothamna ceremony will be performed to-morrow (Thursday) at the Cowasjee Byramjee Fire Temple.

A JESUIT STORY.

Our London correspondent writes:—Since the excellent Mr. Newdegate departed this life we have not heard much about those wicked Jesuits; but the following remarkable story "related to a friend by a lady at present staying in Italy" and now going the round of the home press is enough to cause the great champion of militant Protestantism to turn in his grave:—

I am on intimate terms with the Marquis of Salisbury's family, and the last time when staying at his Lordship's house I was much struck by the face of the major-domo, which haunted me as if I had seen it before. I was puzzled to remember where, and in trying to remember I looked at the man very frequently. At last he noticed I was observing him, and seemed for a moment disconcerted. Still I could not recall where I had seen his face, but presently I remembered, and he observed the evident recognition in my countenance. It was in the Vatican at Rome, over a portion of which he had conducted me. He was at the time in the garb of an Italian priest, speaking English fluently, and was one of the most affable and gentlemanly men I ever met. I went to bed at night, feeling very unhappy, and quite sure that the man was in Lord Salisbury's household for no good purpose. I could not sleep, and resolved on the morrow to mention the facts to the Marquis. Next morning, however, as soon as I got down to breakfast it was reported that the quondam priest had decamped in the night, taking his belongings with him, and causing a great deal of confusion in the household. I then saw the Marquis, and told him all I knew. He appeared to be greatly disconcerted, but said very little. We all concluded at Hatfield that he was an agent of the Jesuits sent over on a special mission.

'Poor Lord Salisbury to have the secrets of his Elizabethan mansion exposed to all the world by a lady on "intimate terms" with the noble Marquis's family. We are not told what her address in Italy is. The above narrative is probably a hoax of the invention of some crazy person. An Italian acquaintance, Signor Valera, the London correspondent of the Secolo, wishing to describe the German Emperor's visit to the Prime Minister, went to Hatfield as a member of Tosti's crack orchestra engaged for the occasion. He is not a musician, but he was supposed to be a sort of attendant, and handed round the music books to the various performers. He gave me a lively laccount of his experiences and of his reception in the servants' hall, for of course he was not allowed to partake of refreshments in the same room as the *artistes*. In the pursuit of his duties Signor Valera goes about a great deal, and if Lord Salisbury's lady visitor had happened to meet him in society and then seeing him in attendance upon the instrumentalists in the ball-room in Hatfield I do not know what she would have thought. The same enterprising gentleman went to Windsor Castle the other day in a similar capacity with the opera troupe commanded to play Cavalliria Rusticana before her Majesty the Queen. But this sort of thing is easy enough in certain circumstances much easier than for a Jesuit in disguise to obtain the position of major-domo to the Premier of England.

THE MIRZAPORE JUDGMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—Now that the Mirzapore's inquiry is over, and judgment has been delivered, I beg to enter my protest against the formation of the Court. What qualifications can a Naval Commander and three shipmasters have to make them competent to sit in judgment on a pilot, or an engineer? The existence of Compulsory Pilotage proves that ship-masters are incompetent to pilot their own vessels. Why then are they, to the exclusion of all other branches of the profession, to sit in judgment on the pilot, who does what they are admittedly incompetent to do? Or why should they alone decide a case which hangs so much on the efficiency of the engines, and the promptness of the engineers? Surely common-sense suggests that at least one pilot and one engineer should have been on that board. Perhaps if that had been the case there would have been a very different verdict. How unacquainted both pilots and masters seem to be with the relationship which exists between the movements of the engines, and the ship's-side discharge. Any engineer knows that in lots of cases the discharge flows on, quite independent of any alteration in the movement of the engines. Also that in lots of cases the engines will make several revolutions before the discharge begins to flow. In the evidence, the greatest proof of the engines not starting properly seemed to be, that—"No vibration was felt for some seconds."—That is simply no proof at all, for if a ship has head-way and the engines are set astern, they are resisted by the head-way of the ship to such an extent that although full steam is turned on still they begin to turn with difficulty, and as they overcome the head-way they gradually increase in speed, and then, and not till then, is the vibration perceptible. In following the evidence it appeared to me perfectly proved that the engines answered every call made upon them. Everybody has noticed that occasionally a railway-train begins to move in a wrong direction, nine out of every ten ship's engines may require a turn or two in an opposite direction before they can be started as ordered from the bridge. It is very seldom that they do require this extra turn or two, but every pilot or steamship master, who knows his business, makes an allowance of time and space. From the evidence I conclude instead of the usual allowance being made the ship was brought too close, at too great a speed. Either the master cautioned the pilot about the engines, or he ought to have done so, for in the damaged state of cylinder extra care was required. Yet it does not appear to have been used.

As a chief engineer I want to point out that for the last ten years it has been a recognized custom all through the merchant service for the master to acquaint the chief engineer when he was about to start and to learn if the chief engineer was ready. I never knew this formality omitted before. On my last voyage I was under orders for "steam at any moment" for 19 hours at one time. I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that I went to sleep and was called with the usual message from the master. If this is not allowed, of what use is it to have watches set, or relieved? Because the chief engineer keeps no watch is he never to sleep; is he to be in the engine-room from arrival at Suez till the departure from Port Said? These are questions that will have to be answered soon. In this case the master admits that he did not inform the chief engineer that the vessel was about to start, and it certainly strikes me as curious justice which blames the sleeper, but clears the very man whose duty it was to acquaint him that the ship was about to start, and whose duty it was to find out if the chief engineer was ready.—Yours, &c.,

AN ENGINEER.

II.

TO THE EDITOR TO THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—If you will grant a space for the ventilation of a grievance you will greatly oblige a large body of marine engineers. The Court finds that the accident was *caused* by the failure of the engines to act when the pilot gave the order "astern," and by the port anchor not being let go promptly according to the pilot's order. But the man who is censured by the Court for the accident is the chief engineer. The chief engineer according to his own statement was asleep. How then could he have caused the accident? Does the Court mean to say that if the chief engineer had been in the engine-room the accident would not have occurred, and does the Court think that the chief engineer himself handles the gear when he is in the engine-room? I presume not. But an accident did occur and the only man who was missing from his post was the chief engineer, and for this he is censured. Can any one tell me for what he was to blame? Is he supposed to "live, move, and have his being" in the engine-room? Is the captain supposed to acquaint the chief engineer with the fact that he is about to proceed into dock? Every careful captain makes a point of asking the chief engineer if he is all ready before lifting his anchor or letting go from a wharf. Did anybody tell the chief officer to go to his post. It seems to me that if the chief engineer had been called to go on duty the accident would have been averted, for according to the finding of the Court the chief engineer is the only one who is censured.

But our grievance is not with the Court, nor with the decision of the Court, so much as with the constitution of it. The Court was constituted "to deal with certificates" Three classes of certificates were at stake, master, pilot, and engineer. Why then was the Court comprised of masters only? Are masters competent to adjudicate on the technical points involving the suspension of a certificate to either a pilot or an engineer? With your permission, I would take this opportunity of drawing the attention of the public generally, and marine engineers in particular to the method of dispensing justice. There may be a precedent, and no doubt according to the Act the Court was properly constituted. But, considering the circumstances, I think it is high time that marine engineers should demand—where a question of their certificates is involved—that they shall be as *fairly* represented in the constitution of the marine court of enquiry as the master is.—Yours, &c.,

Dec. 21. JUSTICE.

THE HOSPITALS FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

At the meeting of the Bombay Municipal Corporation held on Monday afternoon the letter of Government written to the Chairman of the Corporation on the subject of the provision of hospital accommodation for infectious diseases was considered as a matter of urgency. Mr. G. Cotton presided, and there were also present:—Messrs. Abdulla M. Dharamsi, Anandrao Narayen Vasudeo, Brigade-Surgeon S. O'B. Banks, Messrs. Barjorji Sorabji Shroff, Bhagwandas Narotumdas, Dr. Thomas Blaney, Messrs. Byramjee Nusserwanjee Servai, E. B. Carroll, J. P. Cornforth, Cowasjee Hormusjee, Cowasji Pestonji, Damodar Thakersi Mulji, Darashah Ratanji Chichgar, Dinshaw Edulji Wacha, J. R. Duxbury, Eknath Raghunath Khote, Fazalbhai Jumabhai Lalji, the Hon'ble Fazulbhoy Visram, Messrs. J. F. Fernandes, Framji Dorabji Divecha, Grattan Geary, Govardhandas Khatao Makanji, Hurkisondas Nurrotumdas, Jagmohandas Vandrawandas, Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Bart., Messrs. Jamsedji Kharsedji Kama, Jamshedjee Pallonjee Kapadia, the Hon'ble Javerilal Umiashankar Yajnik, Jaya Karadi Linga, Kaikhosro Nowroji Kabraji, K. M. Shroff, Rai Bahadur Luchmon Singh, Brigade-Surgeon G. A. Maconachie, Meherjibhai Rastamji Setna, Colonel G. L. C. Merewether, Messrs. Mirza Hossein Khan, Mulji Bhawanidas Barbhaya, Muncherjee C. Murzban, Naoroji Beiramji Suntook, Pherozeshah Merwanjee Mehta, Purshotumdas Munguldas Nathubhoy, H. M. Phipson, Rahimtula Mohamed Sayani, Rastamji Nasarvaoji Khory, G. W. Roughton, Tribhowandas Munguldas Nathoobhoy, Tribhowandas Varjiwandas, Dr. Accacio Gabriel Viegas, and Colonel W. H. Wilson.

Mr. P. M. Mehta said that they had to consider the reply of Government in answer to the letter addressed to them by the Corporation on the question of hospitals for infectious diseases showing cause against the rule served on them. He begged to propose to the Corporation that they should adopt a temperate and a middle course in the matter. There were three courses open to them, either to accept the orders of Government, or go to a court of law—so far as a court of law could take cognizance of such a matter—or behave temperately, and in a loyal and respectful manner by appealing, not to a court of law, but to an authority equally the superior of the Corporation and the Government of Bombay, namely, the Government of India. He, therefore, proposed that the letter from Government be recorded, and that the Committee of the Corporation that drew up the reply to Government be asked to draw an appeal to the Government of India against the orders of the Bombay Government in the matter: Mr. Roughton to take the place of Mr. Chandavarkar, who had resigned. In doing so, he considered it was time to bring out the real facts of what had passed between the Corporation and Government, because he could not help thinking that the people who talked of "squabbles" between Government and the Corporation would be in a better position to form a correct opinion if they knew the facts of the case. There was, he ventured to say, nothing in the nature of a squabble between those two bodies. There were constitutional points on which it was possible for two bodies to be at variance, and he unreservedly said that in two bodies constituted for carrying out certain objects, and both inclined to do their duty, it was quite conceivable that there should be difference of opinion. A few days ago he read in the papers an account of a very interesting and able address delivered by one of the most accomplished of Government officials in connection with the prize-distribution at the Cathedral High School, and in doing so he came across a very interesting question advanced by the speaker, namely, what was the meaning of the word "bureaucrat." That gentleman remarked that he and other officials had been spoken of as bureaucrats, and had he all his life been endeavouring to discover without success what was a bureaucrat. When he (Mr. Mehta) read that he at once compared that officer with that fascinating young lady who went about asking her victims what a flirt was. That official seems to him to be as innocent and ingenious in his enquiry as that simple young lady. (Laughter.) Humble individual as he was, he thought that if Mr. Lee-Warner had asked him that question, he could have given him a reply. He could have told him that a bureaucrat was a superior person, who considered that he was more fitted to look after other people's affairs in the smallest particulars than those people themselves—(hear, hear,)—and further, that if his opinions were not obeyed, they should be enforced at the point not of the sword, but the "mudgeon." (Laughter and applause.) That was his idea of a bureaucrat. He might be pardoned for saying that the reply of Government on the question of infectious hospitals was really conceived in such a bureaucratic spirit, as he would presently show. He trusted every member of the Corporation had gone through that reply, which they were respectfully bound to consider in every detail, and if it was really an answer to their communication to obey the orders conveyed in it, he had gone through the reply over and over again, and he frankly said that he could not come to any other conclusion than that it began with matters utterly irrelevant; which if the Corporation had brought before Government, the latter would have been justified in characterizing those matters as elements which ought not to be brought forward as sober arguments between Government and the Corporation. Beginning with irrelevant matters, Government proceeded upon statements which he could show to them were entirely incorrect—he would not say disingenuous—but certainly not ingenuous. He deliberately made that remark, and the Corporation would pardon him if he

Corporation whether the above meant anything except that those hospitals were to be maintained in the times of epidemic for epidemic visitation. It was upon the letter founded on that report that the Government charged them with breaking their pledge, namely, that the Corporation had consented to maintain those hospitals when there was no epidemic at all. The letter of Mr. Geary, the then chairman, which was founded on that report, distinctly pointed out that what was to be done was in times of epidemic. How Government, therefore, upon that letter could possibly say that they were going to maintain permanently the Grant Road and Arthur Road hospitals, it was utterly impossible to conceive. Was it, he asked, in face of that letter and the resolution appointing the Committee, fair on the part of Government to charge them with having broken the pledge given them without the slightest qualification. The Corporation had, no doubt, brought these troubles on their own hands. When the Committee was appointed there was nothing particular between Government and the Corporation; but the Committee, of which he was a member, considered it wise to ask Government to help them with certain other arrangements, and, therefore, the Corporation asked their chairman for the co-operation of Government in the matter. The "conciliatory spirit" which Government spoke of existed only in their own imagination, as the present scheme was identical with that suggested by Dr. Pinkerton, who said that a small permanent establishment should be provided in the municipal hospitals for the purpose of dealing with epidemic diseases. Government from first to last, as shown by the letters which Mr. Mehta, adhered to one demand, and he failed to see where there was the smallest lots of conciliatory compromise. When Government said that they were giving up their original demand of a permanent hospital, it was entirely an imaginary statement. Mr. Mehta next pointed out by a reference to the records that when Government on their letter declared themselves "unable to recede from the view that persons suffering from infectious diseases should only be admitted to those hospitals which have separate wards for the accommodation of such patients." They actually did recede from their first position in the matter, and were in reality adopting the view which the Corporation from the very first had laid down, so much so, that in their first report they had offered to bear the expense of building a separate ward. He thought there was a good deal of misunderstanding with regard to the position which the Corporation had taken up in this matter. It was not that the Corporation were unwilling to incur expenditure on account of medical relief or primary education; but that they considered the burden should be equalised with that cast upon the rest of the mofussil. In the mofussil—in fact in the whole of the rest of India—municipalities had been relieved of the charges of police in return for undertaking the burdens of primary education and medical relief. It was difficult to understand why Bombay alone should be treated as an exception. Government, he said, talked of discourtesy and indifference; but he would point out that whilst the officers of the Corporation were considering the proposals of Government and collecting information on the point, Government issued orders that no case of infectious diseases should be received in the Sir Jamsetjee Hospital. The Government also issued an arbitrary order discharging the whole of the patients from the Leper Ward, which had been built under an express trust, the endowment being given by the late Mr. Rustomjee Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, on the express understanding that it should form part of the Sir J. J. Hospital. All the patients were arbitrarily let loose into the streets. (Hear, hear.) The Government said that they had not been treated with the respect due to their high authority; but he (Mr. Mehta) asked if on the contrary, not only the Corporation, but the whole of the public of Bombay were not lightly treated in the matter. Supposing Government was right in thinking that it was not advisable to receive infectious patients in the general hospitals surely, the practice which had gone on for years and years, might have been continued for a few months longer till they received the reply of the Corporation. When Government ordered that such patients should not be received in the J. J. Hospital they were doing quite a contrary thing in respect of the European General Hospital, where persons suffering from infectious diseases were admitted. Government were unable to point out the practical mischief created in the Jamsetjee Hospital by admitting cases of infectious diseases. Theoritically he quite admitted that it seemed desirable under certain circumstances. As a member of the Committee he had enquired over and over again to ascertain whether any practical mischief had occurred during all the long years that practice lasted, but all the information he was able to obtain was that something had happened to a nurse once at some remote period. He asked was it possible under the circumstances he had pointed out to justify the statement of Government, namely, that the Corporation had broken the pledge given to Government. He thought he had made it perfectly clear that the Corporation was not guilty of the offences the Government had charged them with. (Hear, hear.) In the face of the letters and other records before them he was utterly at a loss to understand how a Government composed of such eminent and accomplished people could come to the conclusion which they had done in the matter. As to the allegation made by Government that the Corporation had treated them discourteously by "recording" their letter, Mr. Mehta said that the attention of Government had repeatedly been drawn to the fact that the Corporation was ready to do what the Government required if they placed them in possession of additional funds, because when the Municipal Acts were passed it was distinctly understood that the policy of Government under the local self-government dispatches was to give the Corporation an equivalent revenue. They had not, therefore, treated the Government with indifference in as much as that all they wanted to say in the matter had already been communicated to Government in their letter addressed to them on the subject of primary education and medical relief. The Government was to consider the question of giving equivalent revenue on another occasion, but that occasion had never arrived, and it was in that position that the Corporation received the communication of Government which was recorded. Leaving aside all questions of legal rights Mr. Mehta put it to the Corporation whether it was right on the part of Government to have resorted to that extreme clause simply because they deferred on the narrow point. It too seemed that the necessity the Government felt for appl ying the bludgeon clause was not in consequence of what the Corporation had done. It seemed to him that underneath lay the necessity for justifying their action with regard to the notice given by them to stop the Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy Hospital from receiving cases of infectious diseases and throwing patients suffering from such diseases out into the streets. Mr. Mehta next pointed out that Government pretended to have the opinion of their law-officers on their side. But that opinion simply was as stated in their letter that the Corporation were bound to make adequate provision for checking the spread of dangerous disease. But it did not, as it could not, say that keeping a permanent establishment even when there were no cases was a necessary part of such provision. The Government tried to evade this difficulty by appointing a Committee of medical experts all of whose members were already committed to one view. Mr. Geary had thought that Government were doing so with the view of meeting the Corporation half way. It was really with the view of *weighing* the bludgeon. It was simply a *bogus* Committee. With regard to the Committee appointed by Government, Mr. Mehta said that Dr. Cowasjee was the only medical man from the Corporation, and he had to certain extent committed himself against the opinions and views of the rest of the Corporation. In concluding his remarks Mr. Mehta said that it was not a question of only a few hundred rupees but it involved the sacrifice of an important principle. It involved the question of a larger liability of the Corporation to provide for all infectious disease, is the way in which Government thought fit to dictate. The germ theory was now accredited by the medical profession and all diseases were considered infectious, and under those circumstances Government might call upon the Corporation to establish separate hospitals for the treatment of consumption, and many other such diseases. Were, he asked, the Corporation ready to accept such a liability, or were they prepared to admit that their constitutional principle extended no further than to obey the orders of Government. (No, no.) Such an interpretation on the Municipal Act would be simply disastrous not only for the Municipality but for local self-government, as nobody of honorable men would come forward to serve Government on such terms. Were they not entitled to some consideration for rendering gratuitous services in the public interest? They had to consider carefully before they took any steps in the matter, that they did not confirm or ratify the theory which his friend, Mr. Wacha, delighted to call the "Johookam" policy. When the Municipal Acts were passed only a few years ago it was pointed out at the time when the bludgeon clause was discussed at the sittings of the Legislative Council that it was only to be applied in extreme cases when the Corporation were guilty of some gross negligence. Was Bombay to be treated unequally to the rest of the whole of India? The Corporation, he ventured to say, would be quite willing to undertake primary education and medical relief if they were treated in the same manner, as he would point out when they considered the police charges question, as not only the Mofussil, but the rest of India, namely, that they were relieved of the police charges. He again advised the Corporation to adopt the middle and temperate course of appealing to the Government of India, and if necessary to the Secretary of State for India, as was done on a former occasion when the Bombay Government in an arbitrary manner took Rs. 15,000 for contagious diseases. (Loud applause.)

Dr. Blaney seconded the motion, reserving his remarks.

The Corporation then adjourned.

The Bombay Municipal Corporation yesterday resumed consideration of Mr. P. M. Mehta's resolution on the subject of the provision of hospital accommodation for infectious diseases, namely, that the letter from Government be recorded, and that the Committee that drew the reply to Government be asked to draw an appeal to the Government of India against the orders of the Bombay Government in this matter; Mr. Roughton to take the place of Mr. Chandavarkar who had resigned. Mr. Roughton proposed the following amendment:—"That the Municipal Commissioner be requested to take the opinion of counsel as to what are the liabilities of the Corporation in respect of taking measures for preventing and checking the spread of dangerous diseases set forth in Section 61 of the Municipal Act, and whether the requisitions of Government contained in Government Resolution No. 4337 of 15th December, 1891, are such as can be enforced against the Corporation by Government under the compulsory clauses of the Municipal Act. (2.) That in the event of the opinion of the counsel being that the proposed action of Government is of doubtful legality than that the necessary notice of action be given to Government of a suit in the High Court for an injunction to restrain the Government from adopting the procedure which they contemplate, and such a suit be instituted in due course. (3) That in the event of the opinion of counsel being that no such action on the part of the Municipality can, having regard to the provisions of Sections 61 and 518 of the Act, be successfully maintained than that the Municipal Commissioner be requested to carry out the requirements of Government with the least possible delay. (4) That in the last event the Committee previously appointed upon this question be requested to draft an appeal to the Governor-General in Council against the action of the Government of Bombay." The Hon. Mr. Javerilal seconded the amendment. Mr. Mulji proposed as another amendment "that the first part of Mr. Roughton's resolution relating to taking the opinion of counsel be adopted." Mr. Roughton agreeing with Mr. Mulji withdrew the remaining portions of his amendment.

Mr. Grattan Geary moved as another amendment, "That with reference to Government letter of the 15th inst. the President be requested to inform Government that the Corporation are willing to accept the recommendation made by the Committee referred to in the Resolution in question, that is for the permanent establishment at Grant Road at an expense of Rs.1,302 a year as well as the improvements referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Committee's report or such other improvements as may be reported to be necessary by their executive officers. That the Corporation learn with regret that their attitude on this question should be regarded as wanting in proper respect to a higher authority. They beg to assure Government that their letter of the 19th Dec., 1890, was only recorded by them because there appeared to be no reason for further discussion. The Grant Road Hospital was then open, and there appeared to be no special matter on which a further communication to Government was required. Nothing could be farther from their intention than to fail at any time in the respect which is due to his Excellency in Council. That the President be further requested to call the attention of Government to the point that the tenor of his predecessor's letter dated 18th September, 1889, has been misunderstood; that communication expressly stated that the Municipal infectious hospitals provided for the treatment of epidemic disease, and did not in any way constitute an undertaking binding the Corporation to keep the said hospitals open when there were no epidemic diseases to be treated therein."

Dr. Banks seconded.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Geary's amendment was put and rejected by 29 votes to 10. Mr Roughton's amendment was also lost by 30 votes to 10, while the original proposition of Mr. Mehta was carried by 31 votes for and 8 against.

NUISANCES IN CAVEL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—With reference to the discussion in the Municipal Corporation, which took place on Monday last on the representation of the residents of Cavel Street, complaining of the insanitary condition of that locality, I trust you will kindly allow me to say a few words on the subject. One of the remedies suggested by Mr. Grattan Geary and Mr. Kirkham was that additional latrine accommodation should be provided for the public, and Mr. Roughton enquired whether it would be fair and equitable to prosecute people for doing in the street what there was no provision for doing elsewhere. I would point out to these gentlemen that it is not the absence of public latrines which makes the people resort to the public streets, but the filthy habit, apparently inherent in the Bania population, of sending their children to the streets. The children who commit the nuisance in Cavel Street are the children of well-to-do Banias who are rich house-owners and live themselves in large houses of two or three storeys. Can it for a moment be supposed that these houses have no latrine accommodation? I will not venture an opinion on the moot question, whether it is the business of the Municipality, or of the Police, or of Government to deal with the nuisance, but as it is admitted on all hands that the nuisance exists, I humbly submit that the Municipality, which is primarily responsible for the public health of the city, should take the initiative in moving Government to amend the Municipal Act so as to equip the Health Department with the requisite powers, or in invoking the aid of the police if the suppression of the nuisance is a matter which is held to fall within their functions. While crores of rupees are being spent by the Municipality on sanitary arrangements in other directions, it seems ridiculous that our Health Department should be left without power to check so fertile a source of danger to the public health in the very heart of the city.

I observe that Colonel Merewether moved and Dr. Cowasji (who is at present soliciting the votes of Justices of the Peace for his return to the Corporation in view of his "efforts towards the improvement of sanitation") seconded the proposition that "the petitioners be informed that the street was kept swept and all rubbish removed within 24 hours, and further informed that the Corporation had nothing to do with the nuisance committed by the children," but if it fell to the lot of either of these gentlemen to pass any day through a street filled with such revolting sights and smells as those referred to in the Cavel Street representation, I have no doubt they would soon be induced to change their opinion.

Colonel Wilson will confer a lasting boon on the memorialists if in pursuance of the resolution of the Corporation which he supported, he made an example of those who are responsible for committing the nuisance referred to—Yours, &c.,

Cavel Street, Dec. 17. SANITAS.

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORTS.

DECEMBER 21.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.
AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.
AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.
CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.
Cable Aden-Zanzibar interrupted.
Cable Hongkong-Bolinao interrupted.
Telegrams for Philippine Islands forwarded by post, no extra charge, no extra address.
Turkish route right.

A brother-in law of Johann Orth, nephew of the the Emror of Austria, sings in the chorus at the Casino, New York. His name is Camillo Stubed, and he, too, has, he says, received confirmatory proof that Johann Orth is alive. It appears, too, that Orth's wife Milly Stubel, was never an actress, but that she has two sisters on the stage, one as suprette at the Krall Theatre, Berlin, and the other, a danseuse. As for Milly Stubel, she was the housekeeper of the Archduke when the love affair began. She is a blonde of medium height, thirty-five years of age, and by no means handsome. She is brilliantly educated and attractive, and it was to those powers that the Archduke, who is considered physically and mentally the finest of the Hapsburgs, yielded. For her he renounced his ducal titles, his hopes of an immense inheritance, and a glittering position in the Austrian army. By last reports the mother of Milly Stubel had received another letter from her daughter, and that the family house in Berlin, No. 131, Frederick-street, is being prepared for the residence of the husband, wife, child and a maid whom she calls Augusta.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

A LOCOMOTIVE has just been built at the Crewe works of the London and North-Western Railway which is capable of drawing a train at the rate of a hundred miles an hour. The speed attained by this engine in its trial runs between Crewe and Chester was ninety miles an hour, but this was shown to be considerably below its full powers.

THE Duc d'Orleans has proved a sad marplot by attracting the attention of all Europe to his stay at St. Johann. It appears that there was a private gathering of members of the Coburg Orleans clan under the hospitable roof of Baron Hirsch, and it was hoped by them that their host would be so complaisant as to advance a loan of a million sterling to Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria. The scheme, however, was shattered by the scandal caused through the Duc d'Orleans having been publicly served at Vienna with a citation from the Divorce Court, which would have been avoided if H.R.H. had quietly accepted service from the attorney's clerk who followed him to St Johann.

THE clever conjurer of the Egyptian Hall has added to his *repertoire* a striking novelty, which surpasses anything yet achieved in the way of marvels by the European disciples of that Tibetan Wilfred Murray, Koot Hoomi. One of the performers vanishes from a chair in which he is strapped, and while in some sort held by a couple of the audience, he turns up in a dazed condition at the back of the hall. If this is not magic of a high order, it means first class mechanical contrivance and wounderful agility. Indeed Mr. Maskelyne's feats have already in the past bordered so closely on the miraculous that his *clientele* are always in the mood which is surprised at nothing. Still we think "The Mahatmas Outdone" is a specially dexterous performance, and we had opportunity of observing it at very close quarters.

MESSRS. CHANDLER AND GRANNUM, members of the Barbadoes Legislature, have arrived at Washington for the purpose, it is said, of assisting in making a reciprocal trade arrangement between the British West Indies and the United States.

THE inquiry into the affairs of the Hansard Union in the Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday (Dec. 2), subject to any further order that might be made. In giving further evidence on Tuesday, Sir Roper Lethbridge, M.P., attributed the failure of the undertaking chiefly to the appointment of a receiver at the instance of the Debenture Corporation, as he believed there was nothing unsound in the company's business. It is said that a writ has been served upon Mr. Labouchere, M. P., and others, at the instance of Mr. Horatio Bottomley, claiming damages for libel in connection, it is understood, with certain references to the Hansard Publishing Company and Mr. Bottomley in the Christmas number of *Truth*.

ALL things considered, the future of German colonisation in Africa is not promising, considering the many blows it has received lately. Firstly, there was the defection of Emin Pasha; then came the disaster to Lieut. Zalewsky's expedition; then the death of Baron von Gravenreuth, and the illness of Major von Wissmann; while if the continued ill-health of the latter prevents him from resuming his duties in Africa the colonisation scheme will receive the greatest blow of all, as his loss could hardly be replaced.

The *World* says some uneasiness has been caused by the announcement that Sir William Jenner has been staying for several days at Windsor Castle. The fact is, however, that for twenty years past it has been Sir William's duty to pay periodical visits to Windsor and Osborne, and he always goes to the Casle directly after the queen has returned there from Balmoral. The Queen has been in the best possible health during the autumn, and she is perfectly well now, except for occasional twinges of rheumatism, a malady to which she has become subject during the last nine years; but it usually attacks the knees only. The Queen's recent touch of rheumatism was caused by imprudently driving from Braemar to Balmoral after dark, on a cold, raw night, in an open carriage, and I hear that Sir William Jenner has positively prohibited such risky expeditions in future.

THE Egyptian Budget for next year shows an estimated revenue of £E9,950,000 and the expenditure at £E9,400,000, giving a surplus of £E550,000.

THE Burgomaster and the Alderman of Scheveningen have published a statement to the effect that typhoid fever is at present prevalent at that place in an epedemic form.

A BILL on the duties and obligations of foreigners residing in France, which modifies in some respects the decree of 1888, has just been prepared by a committee, and will be submitted to the French Chamber.

THE United States Congress voted £5,000 last session for a preliminary survey of a cable to Honolulu, and a ship is now being sent out. The proposal to subsidise the cable company fell through, pending the report of the survey.

SIGNOR LUZZATTI, the Minister of the Italian Treasury, made his financial statement in the Italian Chamber on December 1st. He said that the corrected Budget for 1891-92 would show a deficiency of only 1,000,000 lire (£40,000), which would be amply covered by the new economies. It was framed with the object of meeting all the necessities of the nation without contracting new debts. The Minister explained a plan for the issue of an Internal Redeemable Loan. The Budget for 1892-3 would be the first to present a surplus (estimated at over 9,000,000 lire), while providing 11,000,000 lire for the redemption of debt.

THE Countess Russell, who brought a suit for judicial separation against Earl Russell, was married less than two years ago. She is the daughter of the late Sir Claude Scott, and, like her husband, is quite young. At one time she was a well-known figure in the Row, and later might have been frequently met driving tandem round the country about Walton-on-Thames, where her home, "The Hurst," is situated. Lady Russell is exceedingly popular among her friends, and used to be a frequent visitor at the Walton Convalescent Home. The Countess is the sister of the petitioner in the nulity case, "Sebright (otherwise Scott) *vs.* Sebright," which five years ago caused a great sensation. Earl Russell is the eldest son of Lord and Lady Amberley, and grandson of Lord John. He is twenty-seven years of age, and was educated at Winchester and Oxford, where he proclaimed himself a Buddhist, and otherwise attracted a good deal of attention. From his grandfather he inherited the Irish estates which were bought with the £100,000 given to Earl Russell by his brother, the Duke of Bedford, when he was made a peer. Like all Irish properties this property has much diminished in value, and the present Earl, who is of a scientific turn of mind, went into partnership some time ago with a firm of electrical engineers at Teddington.

THE *Gazette* of the North-West Provinces and Oudh contains the conditions under which the Bishen Prakash Trust Fund, which amounts to some Rs. 17,000, is to be applied for the benefit of the youth of the Fyzabad District. There will be two scholarships of Rs. 12 a month in the first year of tenure and Rs. 15 a month in the second, for students who pass the Intermediate Examination of the Allahabad University; and failing these, three scholarships for those who pass the Entrance Examination to the University.

WOLCOTT BALESTIER, the young man who collaborated with Kipling on the novel now running in the *Century*, about ten years ago came down from his home in Rochester, where he had been doing newswork, and began a very successful career in new York. He did some clever newspaper work for the *Tribune*, wrote a campaign life of Blaine, two clever novels, and connected himself with the Lovells, whose agent he now is in London. He is, besides, a partner in the London firm of Heinemann and Balestier, publishers, and is at present writing a long serial for the *Century*.

A FORM OF HINDU SYMBOLISM.

SIR GEORGE BIRDWOOD, in his introduction to the forthcoming number of the *Journal of Indian Art*, makes the following reference to a well-known form of symbolism amongst the Hindus:—My children while I was living in Bombay all happened to be boys, and the rapidity with which I laid out the Victoria Gardens, having also made a great local impression, I suddenly found myself an object of natural worship among the humbler classes of women in the neighbourhood who desired to have sons born to them. Every morning as I came out of my house I found the porch surrounded by these simple souls, to the number at last of over three and four hundred; and as I walked on giving the orders for the day to the *karbari* or "manager" of the garden, they would press forward and lay their offerings at my feet, all of these being "fascina" of a variety of kinds. Many would give but the leaf of the mango, or the *tagara* [Tabernæmontana coronaria], or of the bel [Ægle Marmelos] or the Crataeva religiosa. But the most common offering was the bud of the Rose Edward, often set up in a little silver cradle, one of which I still possess, and sometimes imitated in silver filigrain. I, on my part, always fell in sympathetically with their mute prayers, promising boys to all who, as good wives and mothers, might deserve them. And when the boys came, as they did in due proportion, I always had baskets of fruits of every kind sent me, plantains, cocoanuts, mangoes, oranges, &c., according to their season. But presently it began to appear that some of my poor *malis*, or "gardeners," were receiving money for my progenitive blessings, and I was obliged therefore to gradually put an end to the spiritual "culture" that had thus silently sprung up in the Victoria Gardens:—making a memorial *pot pourri* of all the votive rose buds? The bane of our presence in India is that the usual orthodox Englishman cannot comprehend and will not tolerate such practices as these, and the other day in Madras, the police magistrate had a little Hindu boy flogged for, in the terms of the indictment, "exhibiting an indecent figure in public view." What he had explicitly done was to set up, according to universal custom, a symbolical image before a house that was in cousse of erection by a Mr. K. Streevansa, who was, indeed, first tried under the same absurd charge, but was acquitted, as he, the owner of the house, was not the person who had actually exhibited the figure. It was set up before Mr. Streevansa's house simply as an ingenuous and artless symbol of the deity, and in public acknowledgment of the sentiment of the Hebrew Psalmist:—"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it." The pillars of Jachin and Boaz, set up by King Solomon before the temple of Jehovah at Jerusalem, had exactly the same significance,—that in the strength of the Almighty alone can any work of man be surely established. The ultimate artistic form of the symbol, as I have been able to trace it step by step from India to Greece and Italy, is, as above indicated, the "Tree of Life," guarded by its affronted cherubim or witnesses. See also a letter of mine in the *Times* of 3rd Sept. last; since which date I have learned that on the indicted figure being removed from before Mr. Streevansa's house, the workmen refused to go on with the building of it.

MR. GOSCHEN ON THE METALLIC RESERVE.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer addressed a special meeting of the members of the London Chamber of Commerce on Dec. 2, in the Merchant Taylors' Hall, Threadneedle-street, on the "Metallic Reserve." Sir John Lubbock presided, and the large hall was densely crowded. In the course of a speech which lasted an hour and a half, Mr. Goschen advocated the securing of a larger stock of gold as a central store, and that more elastic powers should be given to the Bank of England in times of internal crisis:—He repeated his arguments in favour of the issue of £1 notes and stated that he had abandoned the idea of 10s. notes. He deprecated the idea that any legislation could prevent panics or over speculation; but he was not sure but that legislation might do something to prevent the widening of the area over which the consequences of over speculation might spread. The total amount of gold held in this country he put at £22,000,000, which was the average of the last fifteen years. In these days of rapid combinations and sudden wars, there might some day be an attack upon the bullion of the country, and there was another object for which he was anxious that the central store of gold should be increased; it was that in times of internal crisis, when it would be legitimate to expand the currency—such a time as the failure of the Glasgow Bank—there should be some other means of relief than the rude method of suspending the Bank Charter Act. The plan he had in his head was this: When the bullion in the Bank of England exceeded 22 millions, then he would begin to issue notes in the proportion of four upon gold and one upon securities. Up to that point, so long as only 22 millions of gold were in the Bank of England, he should leave the Bank Charter Act as at present, and he would only begin to issue notes after that point was passed. The total circulation of the Bank at present might be called 38 millions—16½ millions in bank securities, 21½ millions in bullion; if with that amount of gold in the vaults of the bank, an issue of £1 notes took place, the result would be this, that if we issued 20 million, or 25 millions in £1 notes, the stock of gold would be increased by 20 millions, and the fiduciary issue by 5 millions; making the fiduciary issue 21½ millions, and the gold in the Bank of England 41½ millions. If a system of this sort were adopted they would be able at an internal crisis to give elasticity to the Bank which at present he should fear to give because they had not got enough gold. He would, therefore, give the Bank of England power when the stock of bullion had reached 30 millions, to issue against that sum, with a high rate of interest which would have to be fixed, a certain number of additional notes irrespective of the ordinary proportion between gold and securities. These arrangements would have to be made upon this basis—that the rate of interest must be neither so high as to make the whole operation inoperative, nor so low as to encourage people to speculate up to it with the certainty of being able at a reasonable rate of interest to carry through their speculation.

WAR PREPARATIONS IN EUROPE.

A SEBASTOPOL correspondent telegraphs that an order has just been issued to the troops in South Russia, that the officers of the different regiments are to send in their sword blades to be sharpened and tested. It is expected that a mobilisation is intended early next year.

The Austrian Army Budget contains the following items among its estimates:—For repeating rifles, 2,000,000fl.; for new siege pieces in steel bronze, 250,000fl.; for smokeless powder, 2,500,000fl.; for the purchase of provissions in buiscuits and tinned meats 858,000fl.; for the reconstruction and armament of two fortresses in Galicia, 1,000,000fl.; for the execution of a strategical map of Central Europe, 65,000fl.; for the purchase of 25 additional horses for every cavalry regiment, 342, 668fl.; and for the troops stationed in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 4,435,000fl. At the sitting of the Austrian Delegation on Dec. 2 the Minister of War declared that he could neither advocate nor oppose a two years' military service, but added that the peace effective must be augmented before a change could be made.

The arms manufactory at Liege is now actively engazed in the making of the Mauser repeating rifles for the Belgian infantry. Forty thousand will be ready next August, and 150,000 in 1894. The manufacture of the Mauser carbines for the cavalry is to begin shortly. The Chamber has agreed that the annual contingent for the army shall be 13,300 men. The reconstruction of the fortifications of Antwerp, at an estimated cost of 55,000,000fl., is now considered necessary, the French having constructed camps on the northern frontier.

The Royal Arsenal at Spandau is at present working with its full complement of hands in all departments, in some of which, notably those for gun casting and munitions, work is being carried on night and day.

According to M. Ochery, who was appointed to draw up the report on the French Naval Budget, France has "nearly as many ironclads afloat as England—namely, thirty against thirty-one; an equal number of torpedo cruisers, despatch boats, and torpedo boats—fifteen against fifteen. On the other hand, England will have sixty-nine cruisers, and we only twenty-eight; but, then, most of these sixty-nine will be employed on the numerous naval stations kept up by that Power in distant seas."

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THE LATE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.

IN to-day's telegrams the death is announced of the Duke of Devonshire, whose eldest son, Lord Hartington, succeeds to the title and to his immense estates. The reluctance of Lord Hartington to throw in his lot with the Conservative Party was a sore perplexity to politicians of both parties. But to those who are aware of the part which the Cavendishes have played for the last two hundred years, it would be astonishing if Lord Hartington renounced the Liberal traditions of the family to which he belongs. Other great houses like the Stanleys, the Talbots, the Lennoxes, and even the Greys have been found now on this side, now on that; but the Liberalism of the Cavendishes has been steady and uniform. The man who inherits the historic memories of a great Whig house cannot lightly break with such a past. Though Mr. Chamberlain is a far more advanced politician than Lord Hartington, it is difficult for him to make terms with Democratic Toryism. The historic Liberalism of the Cavendishes is almost a religion.

Lord Hartington's father, the Duke of Devonshire, born in 1808, from his earliest years was a youth of great expectations. His grandmother was the daughter and heiress of the last Earl of Burlington and Cork, and her estates passed to her second son, who subsequently, in 1831, was created Earl of Burlington. This nobleman's heir was killed by a fall from his horse, when his son, the present Duke of Devonshire, was a child of four. In due time plain Mr. William Cavendish, as he was then, went to Cambridge; but, unlike many youths who are born in the purple, he worked for honours and obtained them. Before he was 21 he was Second Wrangler, Senior Smith's Prizeman, and in the first class of the Classical Tripos. This was in January, 1829. In April he came of age; in June of the same year he was chosen one of the Members for the University. The struggle for the first Reform Bill had just begun, and Mr. William Cavendish was one of its staunch supporters. In consequence of this he was ousted from his seat in 1831, and took refuge in Lord Fitzwilliam's pocket borough of Malton. Shortly afterwards he was returned for North Derbyshire, as representative for which he voted for Lord John Russell's Reform Bill. In the House of Commons during the brief period that he sat therein, Mr. Wm. Cavendish was not quite a silent Member. He made two or three brief speeches in favour of the Reform Bill; but they scarcely show promise of brilliant success in debate had he possessed his eldest son's opportunities. In 1834, at his grandfather's death, he entered the House of Lords as Earl of Burlington, and in 1858 he succeeded his cousin, the sixth Duke of Devonshire, being possessed in all of nearly 200,000 acres, and a rent-roll of more than £180,000 and half-a-dozen mansions—Chatsworth and Hardwicke Hall in Derbyshire, Holkar in Lancashire, Bolton Abbey in Yorkshire, Compton Place near Eastbourne, and Lismore Castle in County Waterford.

Learning is almost as much a part of the family tradition as Liberalism. It was the Hon. Henry Cavendish, grandson of the second duke, who laid the foundations of modern chemistry, and who drew from Sir Humphrey Davy the eulogium that since the death of Newton, England had sustained no scientific loss so great as that of Cavendish. The traditions of Liberalism and learning were combined when, in 1836, the Duke became Chancellor of the new University of London, an institution unfettered by theological restrictions. This position he held till 1856. In 1861, he was appointed Chancellor of his own University of Cambridge; and in 1876 Cavendish College, Cambridge, was inaugurated at that place, its object being to give a University training at a minimum of cost. To this institution the Duke was a munificent contributor. Up to the present time it has hardly fulfilled the objects of its promoters; but recently changes have been proposed in the management which are calculated to make it more popular.

Eastbourne is a lasting monument of the Duke's liberal and enlightened policy as a landlord. The ducal estate in Sussex consists of 12,000 acres, but only 600 acres are at present devoted to building purposes. Up till 1850 Eastbourne was a mere fishing village; land has since been let for the erection of 2,304 houses on the Duke's estate alone, to say nothing of the Gilbert estate, which has been largely developed through the Duke's action. Practically all the public works at Eastbourne have been constructed by the Duke of Devonshire. The sea-wall, nearly two miles long, and other works in connection therewith, cost him £300,000; and when the Local Board planned a drainage scheme the Duke took it over and improved it, taking the outfall three miles away from the town, at an extra cost to himself of £40,000. Of course, he expected to recoup himself in the long run, and Mr. Wallis, the Duke's agent, who supplied these figures to a Committee of the House of Commons, did not attempt to convey the impression that the outlay was anything more than the commercial policy of a far-sighted man with ample means. The Duke also set an admirable example to other great landlords, by giving to his leaseholders the option of the purchase of their freeholds during the first ten years of the term of the lease, at 30 years' purchase which is virtually only 23 years, when the cost of the construction of roads and drains is taken into account. The system has been remarkably successful, for out of 2,300 houses the freeholds of 1,406 have been redeemed, and 536 others are still within the ten years' option. This option of purchase system has, during the last few years, been copied on some portions of the estates of the Prince of Wales, Lord Haldon, and other proprietors.

Barrow, of which the Duke is chief proprietor, is a town whose growth has been even more rapid than that of Eastbourne. In 1835 it contained a dozen houses, and two or three little wooden jetties for the exportation of iron ore. The Duke himself said at the banquet which celebrated the opening of the Docks in 1867, that he recollected the time when the whole population was probably not more than fifty, and was certainly not a hundred. By 1856 the population had risen to 2,000, and it then multiplied itself ten-fold in ten years. This was due to the enormous growth of the iron, steel, and copper industries, and to the construction of the Devonshire and Buccleuch Docks, each about thirty acres in extent, at a cost of £300,000. The docks were constructed by the gradual reclamation af a channel between Barrow and the small island of Old Barrow. Since then the town has grown by leaps and bounds, so that its population is now over 50,000. Doubtless the Duke reaped a rich revenue by the development of this modern town, but its growth is partly due to the enlightened policy which has been pursued. Those who built houses have purchased the fee-simple outright, and the Duke also laid out land for building at a perpetual rent-charge. The Duke liberally contributed towards the erection of churches and other public buildings in Barrow.

THE RUSSIANS IN ASIA.

M. GROMBCHEFSKY, the Asiatic traveller, in a lecture at St. Petersburg, before the members of the Academy of the General Staff, is reported by the *Novosti* to have declared that the Indian Government sent Capt. Younghusband to annex the Pamir territory, to which its former possessors, the Chinese, had resigned their claim when requested by the English and Afghans to chastise the marauding natives. Capt. Younghusband, it was intended, should occupy a fortified point, and subjugate the Kirghiz of the surrounding district. M. Grombchefsky gave the following resume of the situation:—"The partition of the Pamir plateau between Afghanistan and China affects Russia's interests. Negotiations, therefore, are at present going on, and so long as these negotiations are not brought to a definite close it will not be difficult for Russia to oppose the objectionable claims of the nations in question. As the rights of China are far from being clear, and her possession of the Pamir is in any case only nominal, and one which brings her no advantages, there is but little danger of serious diplomatic protest if Russia asserts her right to the territory. The circumstances, however, would be completely changed if the Chinese, in order to protect themselves from Afghan raids, should conclude a treaty with England. The Chinese are an ambitious people, and if backed up by England, would never admit that they had no claim on the Pamir. To begin a conflict with the teeming millions of the Chinese Empire is not to be thought of; but a frontier regulation once arranged with China, the expulsion of the English from the Pamir offers no difficulties of any kind.

WHILE the Marquis of Birlingieri, of Cotrone, and some of his people were walking in his grounds the other day, they were suddenly attacked by a large and enraged stag. Being unarmed, they with difficulty beat the animal back; but it returned, and killed a man with its antlers. The marquis was wounded in the arm, and one of his gamekeepers was severely wounded in the thigh. It was only after a desperate struggle that the party managed to escape without further loss of life.

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THE RUSSO-FRENCH UNDERSTANDING.

ACCORDING to information which has been received in Berlin "from authentic sources" respecting the conferences of M. de Giers with President Carnot, M. de Freycinet, and M. Ribot during the Russian Minister's visit at the French capital, it would appear that the points of rapprochement between France and Russia were carefully examined on both sides, and that on all these points a complete and definite understanding was arrived at, although no actual treaty of alliance was formally drawn up and signed. Nor was there even an exchange of written explanatory notes. It is understood that the main points of the Russo-French *entente* thus arrived at are as follows:—The *entente* has an exclusively defensive basis, aiming at the maintenance of peace, on which point the declarations exchanged between M. de Giers and the French Ministers were most categorical. So far, the *entente* was no more than counterpart of the Triple Alliance, but it appears differ from that compact in one very essential particular, inasmuch as, while the Triple Alliance [illegible] the present European *status quo* the basis of the tenance of peace, the Franco-Russian *entente* [illegible] not on the *status quo*, but upon respect for [illegible] which is a somewhat different matter, [illegible] fact that events have occurred, and [illegible] Bulgaria and Egypt, which are regarded [illegible] and Russia as contrary to the stipulations [illegible] national law as established by existing [illegible] affirmed, however, that this difference [illegible] least, in the present circumstances [illegible] ger for the maintenance of peace, [illegible] objects of the Franco-Russian *entente* [illegible] the strict application of the treaties by [illegible] pacific means, the maintenance of peace [ill

MILITARY AND NAVAL NOTES.

"A Southron, but a Scot," makes a very smart attack, which Lord Archibald Campbell would consider flat blasphemy, not only on "ostrich-plumes," "kilts," and "spats" as military adjuncts of a fighting soldier's dress, but goes for the abstract "Highlander" generally so far as to deny that any of the Scottish Chiefs from Bruce and Wallace down to Clyde, had aught to do with clans, clansmen, tartans, or bagpipes. "I don't know of one who was a kilted Highlander. Does any one think the Leslies, Keiths Bairds, Abercrombies, Napiers, Gillespies, Stewarts, Moores, Clydes—any of the famous leaders of men at home and abroad for the last 300 years—any more than the Adam Smiths, David Humes, Burnses, or Walter Scotts, or other philosophic and literary glories of our country—were Highlanders? I do not believe Lord Archibald Campbell can find, in or out of Inverary Castle, the authentic portrait of a Campbell, or of a Chief of a Clan, in the garb of old Gael,' which has not been painted within the last 150 years. The Celts of the Highlands had, no doubt, distinctive tartans. They may have had sporrans, skene-dhus, and such-like appendages, but the 'spats' and ostrich-plumes and feather-bonnets worn by Highland regiments are as foreign to Scots as ostrich eggs on a moor, or French milliners' *chapeaux* on Highland lassies. The Scots knights of Bannockburn and Flodden field were armour like their English enemies. It was an obvious impossibility for soldiers to ride in kilts—and they did not try. The ideal being evoked by fantastic costume-mongers, theatrical managers, and predilections for the sentimental side of the Jacobite struggle, resembles the Highlandman of 1500-1600 as much as Baillie Nicol Jarvie, of the Saut Market of Glasgow, resembled the Rob Roy of Sir Walter Scott, or Cameron of Lochiel the traditional Highlander before a tobacconist's shop."

The *New York Times* is responsible for the assertion that the new cruiser Philadelphia is unseaworthy, owing to the construction and arrangement of her protective deck. We are told that "if a shot pierce the Philadelphia's water-line she would infallibly roll over." In this story we seem to see a replica of the scare recently raised about the Baltimore, says the *Army and Navy Gazette*, "built to English designs," as those who find fault with her invariably aver, although a little time back, when she did so well on her trial, her English origin was indignantly denied. Unless we are mistaken, the attack upon the designs of these cruisers originates in nothing more than the wish of some young gentlemen in the American Navy who are interested in cellulose or wood pulp, to get the materials they favour used in the construction of the ships likely to be ordered in the immediate future. We are familiar with the working of this sort of thing on this side of the Atlantic; but as both cellulose and woodite are hopelessly discredited, and the former has just been discarded by the French Government—at one time very sweet on it—we advise our cousins on the other side not to be "fooled" by any such arrant humbug. At any rate, we are quite satisfied that it will take a good many shots to make our cruisers turn turtle.

"Miles Teutonicus" tells a terrible tale in the *United Service Magazine* for this month of the treatment of German soldiers. From general to corporal the regulations prohibiting ill-usage appear to be habitually ignored. Captain Muller, a veteran of the Franco-German War, who was deprived of his rank and title by the late King of Wurtemberg, has published a pamphlet on which this article is based, exposing the cases of ill-treatment which came within his own knowledge, and which he defies the authorities to prosecute him for, as he is willing "to appear before any court and prove the truth of his statements." Some of the offences cannot be described in decent language, others have resulted in driving men mad. A Prussian general boxed the ears of a Wurtemberger and called him a "Swabian swine" because he did not make the requisite number of points at the targets. A man was scrubbed under the half-frozen pump at Ulm. Another had buckets of ice-cold water thrown over him, and has lost the power of speech. A man at Strassburg became a confirmed idiot from ill-usage.

The appointment of General W. J. Chamberlayne to the colonelcy of the West India Regiment is the first instance of an officer whose regimental services had been entirely passed with its colours succeeding to its head. General Chamberlayne, who is in his seventy-second year, joined the 1st West India Regiment as ensign, 25th November, 1842, when it was under the command of Colonel William Bush, K. H., and remained with it for twenty-eight years, commanding it from 1858 to 1870. He has subsequently served as colonel on the staff at the Mauritius from 1872 to 1877. Some noted general officers have in former years filled the colonelcies of the now amalgamated 1st and 2nd West India Regiments, at the head of the 1st being Lord Charles Somerset, Sir Peregrine Maitland, Sir Henry King, Sir William Nicolay, Sir Henry Bouverie, Sir Gregory Bromley, Sir George Thomas Napier, Sir George Bowles, and Sir Arthur Borton, while the 2nd could point to Sir Brent Spencer, Sir George Beckwith, Sir Henry Torrens, Sir John Byng, and Sir Robert Harvey.

In the Plucky court-martial the decision was given at Devonport on November 27, acquitting Lieutenant Fremantle, the Court adding the opinion that the accidents were attributable to error in estimating the distance of the fishing-boats, and that this error was due to the peculiar condition of the atmosphere. Every one who has attentively followed the evidence must concur in the finding of the Court, and we offer our hearty congratulations to Lieutenant Fremantle and to his distinguished father on this ending to an unfortunate affair. It having been conclusively shown that the catastrophe was not due to any carelessness on the part of those responsible for the firing, the question as to whether a safer method of conducting gunnery exercise can be adopted still remains open. This question may well receive consideration at the hands of the authorities, and doubtless will do so shortly. We trust also that those who were so disgracefully ready to cast a slur upon the naval service by allegations of culpable negligence will promptly express their contrition, and in future remember that fairplay is equally the due of the servants of the State as of their masters.

The increased development which is soon to be given to the active strength of the French Navy through the energy of M. Barbey and the pressure of the Budget Committee, has naturally led to a host of surmises being made as to the bestowal of the important commands that will be created, but these are probably based upon nothing more than surmise. Among the officers who will be appointed early next year will be two Vice-Admirals, for the command respectively of the Reserve Squadron at Toulon and the Squadron at Cherbourg, which is to be formed in two divisions; but it is certain that no important movement will be made before February 10, on which day Rear-Admiral Gervais, having reached the term of his command, will leave the Northern Division to take up the duties of Chief of the Staff to the Minister of Marine. He held this post for a few months under Admiral Aube, and during the whole of the Ministry of Admiral Krantz. Vice-Admiral Vignes, now Chief of the Staff as well as director of the Cabinet—which latter office will not be given to Admiral Gervais, who will occupy himself wholly with the executive duties of his office—will succeed to the Northern command.

It is not often we see such announcements as the following, which appeared in a recent *Gazette*:—"Surgeon-Major, ranking as Major, W. H. Briggs, late Medical Staff, whose retirement, receiving a gratuity, was notified in the *Gazette* of 7th November, 1890, is restored to the establishment as a Surgeon-Major . . ." It will be remembered, remarks *Broad Arrow*, that Surgeon-Major Briggs was on the Staff of Lord Connemara, in Madras; prior to that he rendered good service in the Soudan. A precedent for such restoration after leaving the Service exists in the person of the present Director-General, Medical Staff; but whether such a system is to be encouraged, or is equitable, is quite another matter. Dr. Briggs may consider himself lucky that after obtaining a gratuity of £1,800 (which, supposedly, he will have to refund) he again finds himself donning the uniform of the Medical Department.

Taking the *Morning Post* correspondent's own selected examples, it may be asked which sounds resemble each other the most, in each case omitting "Royal?" Irish Rifles and Irish Fusiliers, or eighty-sixth and eighty-seventh? Again, how about forty-second and forty-seventh, and all the seconds and all the sevenths? Isn't "Black Watch" more and all the unmistakable? and so on *ad infinitum*. If numerals were the present proper designation every effort should be made to enforce their use on every occasion; but as county titles are proper and numerals improper, whatever the Commander-in-Chief, on the authority of the *Morning Post* correspondent may do, the rest of the Army, clerks and all, should conform to orders. As to the combination of number and title in all official documents, so long as those who should know affect ignorance, it is a reasonable precaution against possible wilful error.

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For a Weak Stomach, Impaired Digestion, and all Disorders of the Liver, they act like magic, and a few doses will be found to work wonders on the most important organs in human machine.

They strengthen the whole muscular system, restore the long-lost complexion, bring back the keen edge of appetite, and arouse into action, with the rosebud of health, the whole physical energy of the human frame. These are FACTS testified continually by members of all classes of society, and one of the best guarantees to the Nervous and Debilitated is, BEECHAM'S PILLS *have the Largest Sale of any Patent Medicine in the world.*

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As a remedy for Coughs in general, Asthma, Bronchial Affections, Hoarseness, Shortness of Breath Tightness and Oppression of the Chest, Wheezing, &c., these Pills stand unrivalled. They are the best ever offered to the public, and will speedily remove that sense of oppression and difficulty of breathing which nightly deprive the patient of rest. Let any person give Beecham's Cough Pills a trial, and the most violent Cough will in a short time be removed.

The Natives of India will find **Beecham's Pills** the finest medicine ever introduced to their notice; the English residents also will find them of great value for Cooling the Blood: as for throwing off Fevers and preventing inflammations in hot climates, they stand without a Rival.

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The Oil is rendered thoroughly digestible, and its odour and taste are perfectly masked.

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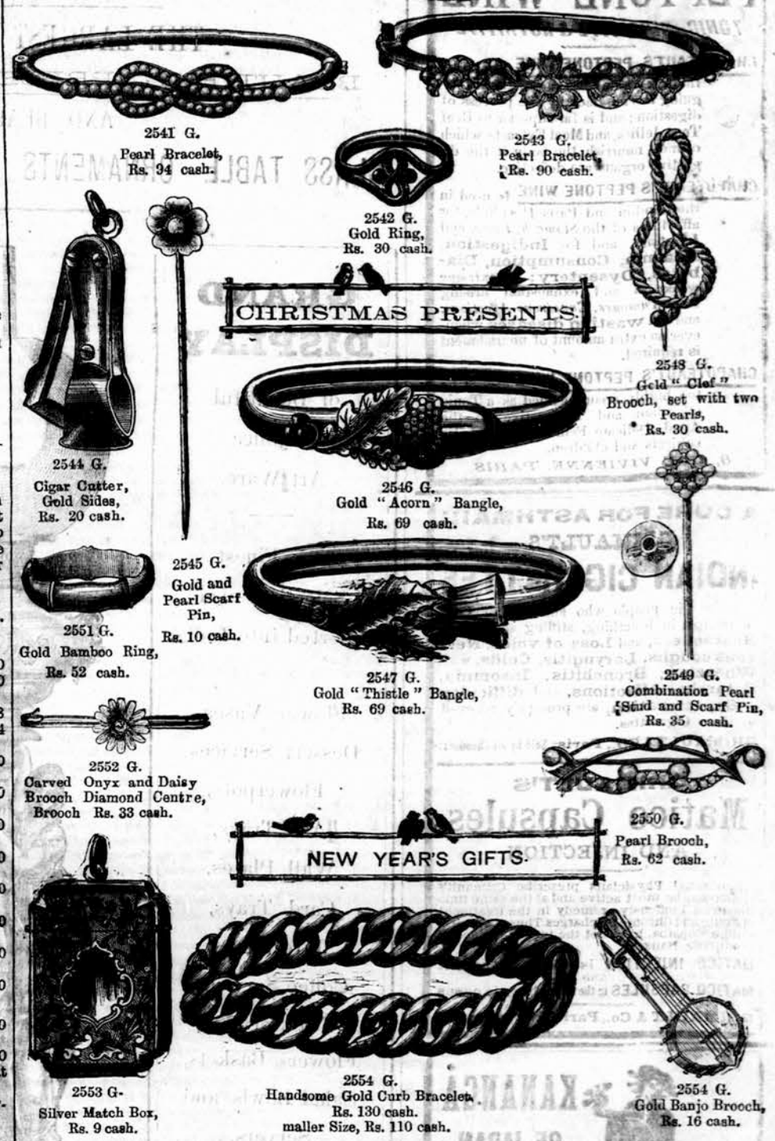

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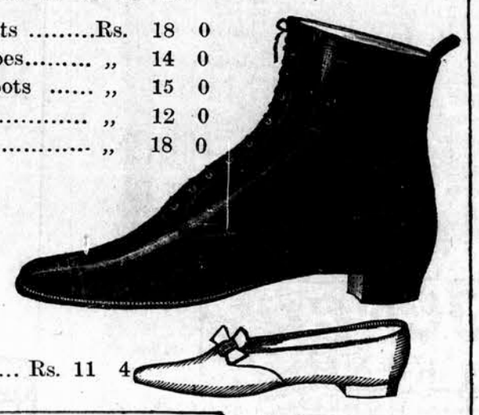

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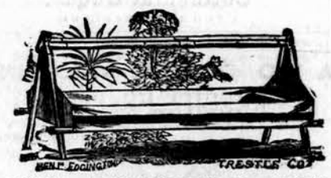

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Printed and published by the Proprietor, GRATTAN GEARY, at the "Bombay Gazette" Steam Press, Esplanade Road, Bombay.
AGENTS.—LONDON: GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; Messrs. KEYMER & Co., 1, Whitefriars Street, London, E.C.—PARIS: Messrs. GALIGNANI & Co., Publishers, Rue de Rivoli.—CALCUTTA: Messrs THACKER, SPINK & Co.